

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MIKHAIL VOLYNETS

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Mikhail Volynets, recipient of the AFL-CIO's 2004 George Meany-Lane Kirkland Human Rights Award, was elected Chairperson of the Independent Trade Union of Miners of Ukraine in 1995, and became its president in 1997. Having previously worked as a miner, and then as a mining engineer, Mr. Volynets participated in the Ukraine's first miner's strikes in 1989, later leading a series of successful mass protests in 1991. Using his leadership position, Mr. Volynets organized the Trade Union of Miners to become an instrumental part of Ukraine's Orange Revolution, which resulted in Viktor Yushchenko's rise to the Presidency in the fall of 2004. Having first been elected to the Ukrainian Parliament (Rada) in 2002, Mr. Volynets is currently a Deputy in the Rada, working to further secure democracy in Ukraine. I congratulate Mr. Volynets for his courage and determination in the face of fear and uncertainty.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2006 AND 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 19, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3057) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of both the Kennedy/Hooley/Osbourne/Souder and the Hooley/Souder/Kennedy/Baird amendments. The methamphetamine scourge that has suddenly gained national attention has unfortunately been going on far too long in countless rural communities, including in southwest Oregon, which I represent.

Almost 12.5 million Americans have tried meth at least once during their lifetime. White House Deputy Drug Czar Scott Burns recently was quoted as saying, "I think we would all agree methamphetamine is the most destructive, dangerous, terrible drug that's come along in a long time." That is very true, especially in Oregon. Unfortunately, law enforcement is struggling to stem the spread of meth.

The Kennedy/Hooley/Osbourne/Souder amendment would require that the State Department annually certify the five biggest exporters and the five biggest importers of the meth precursor pseudoephedrine are cooper-

ating with the U.S. We can quickly help law enforcement organizations ensure that precursor chemicals are not suddenly "lost," and then used in the production of meth at international super-labs. These labs account for 80 percent of the meth used in the U.S.

This amendment will allow the State Department to use its existing power, that it currently uses related to heroin and cocaine, to suspend bilateral and multilateral assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act to countries that cannot account for the pseudoephedrine that enters and leaves their borders.

Also, recent efforts by Oregon's statehouse have helped to curb the manufacture of meth in the state, but abuse is still on the rise. States can restrict the sale of pseudoephedrine products to try to stem the proliferation, but until we stop meth from spilling into the U.S. from Mexico, meth will continue to wreak havoc on families, neighbors, communities, and numerous local, state, and federal resources.

Meth super-labs south of the border that are producing the bulk of meth that feeds the addiction of 600,000 current meth addicts, or tweakers. There are Mexican drug cartels smuggling meth across the border daily, even as I stand before you. It is imperative that the U.S. clamp down on illegal border crossings that ultimately result in the deaths of thousands of Americans, while lining the pockets of a handful of Mexican smugglers. The border must be secure.

The Hooley/Souder/Kennedy/Baird amendment will increase the amount of coordination between the State Department and the Mexican government, and between American law enforcement and their Mexican counterparts can only help us defeat the meth scourge.

I urge my colleagues to support both the Kennedy/Hooley/Osbourne/Souder and the Hooley/Souder/Kennedy/Baird amendments.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH SMALL BUSINESS DAY IN COURT ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, I wish to express my strong support for H.R. 739, the Occupational Safety and Health Small Business Day in Court Act; H.R. 740, the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission Efficiency Act; H.R. 741, the Occupational Safety and Health Independent Review of OSHA Citations Act; and H.R. 742, the Occupational Safety and Health Small Employer Access to Justice Act. As Chairman of the Small Business Committee, I see daily the immense regulatory burden placed upon our small businesses. The Office of Advocacy at the Small Business Administration (SBA) estimates that the average small business is bur-

dened with almost \$7,000 per employee in regulatory compliance costs. I am pleased that the House has taken action to relieve small businesses of some of this burden.

H.R. 739 provides small businesses with additional flexibility by allowing certain exceptions to the arbitrary 15-day deadline for employers to file responses to citations by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). This commonsense measure allows an extension of the 15-day deadline in narrowly tailored circumstances, namely when a small business inadvertently misses this deadline by mistake. H.R. 739 helps ensure that disputes between OSHA and small businesses would be resolved based on the merits of the situation as opposed to legal technicalities. No small business should be foreclosed from a remedy simply because of an arbitrary deadline.

H.R. 740 helps ensure that OSHA reviews cases in a timely and more efficient manner by adding two additional commissioners to the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission (OSHRC). This change ensures that small businesses do not have long, drawn-out proceedings that monopolize their limited resources.

H.R. 741 is designed to restore the review process that was originally intended by Congress when it enacted the OSHA law. Congress's original intent was to form a separate, independent, and unbiased entity, OSHRC, that presided over OSHA hearings. However, the lines between OSHA and OSHRC have become blurred. This bill restores the original system contemplated by Congress and ensures that OSHRC, and not OSHA, would be the party who interprets the law and provides an independent review of OSHA citations.

Finally, H.R. 742 will assist small businesses by giving these businesses an opportunity to recover attorney fees if successful in challenging an OSHA citation.

In all, this common-sense legislation allows OSHA to continue protecting workers at their place of employment, while giving small businesses the ability to be competitive, create jobs, and to be protected from frivolous lawsuits.

TRIBUTE TO SUBHASHREE MADHAVAN AND THE REMBRANDT PROJECT TEAM

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend one of my constituents, Subhashree Madhavan, and her Rembrandt Project Team at the National Institutes of Health. Ms. Madhavan and her colleagues were recently named among thirty finalists for the 2005 Service to America medals awarded by the Partnership for Public Service.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

The Service to America award program recognizes career Federal employees for their significant contributions to the Nation. Recipients of the "Sammies" are among the best and brightest of our public servants. While we seldom give public recognition to their efforts, they devote their lives and careers to the cause of our national welfare. They are models to the rest of the Federal workforce and inspirations to us all.

Since joining the National Cancer Institute Center for Bioinformatics at NIH, Ms. Madhavan has overseen the development of the Rembrandt Project. Rembrandt (REpository for Molecular BRAin Neoplasia DaTa) is a database that brings together data from an NCI clinical study with a vast store of existing data on brain tumors. By bridging the gap between clinical and biological information, Rembrandt will facilitate the diagnosis and treatment of individual patients and will assist brain cancer researchers in their search for a cure.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my warmest congratulations to Ms. Madhavan and her team.

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE AND INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2005

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. CONYERS, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Medical Malpractice Insurance and Litigation Reform Act of 2005. In response to the issue of frivolous lawsuits, Title I of the bill provides for a series of measures designed to insure that the lawsuit itself is not frivolous and that the pleadings filed in connection with the suit are accurate and meritorious. Title I also provides for alternative dispute resolution designed to encourage resolution of medical malpractice actions outside of court.

The bill also responds to the real problems in the medical malpractice insurance market, namely higher prices driven by lack of competition and investment losses by insurers leading to a boom/bust cycle. In response to these issues, Title II insures that the antitrust laws apply to medical malpractice insurers, price comparisons can be easily obtained, and procedural checks are in place to insure that premium increases are warranted and can be challenged by health care providers.

Above and beyond these requirements, Title III of the legislation responds to concerns that medical malpractice is not available in certain parts of the country. As a result, this title would create monetary grants dispensed through the Health Resources and Services Administration to health care providers who choose to work in geographic areas with a shortage of one or more types of health providers.

In addition, the bill responds to the need to fully examine the recent and dramatic increases in medical malpractice insurance premiums. Title IV creates an Independent Advisory Commission on Medical Malpractice Insurance to evaluate the cause of the recent premium increase. Title V authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to collect the data necessary to examine the medical malpractice insurance industry. The following is a more detailed description of the legislation:

"THE MEDICAL MALPRACTICE AND INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2005" SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Scope. The legislation narrowly defines "medical malpractice action" to cover "licensed physicians and health professionals" for only cases involving medical malpractice. These definitions are intended to include doctors, hospitals, nurses, and other health professionals who pay medical malpractice insurance premiums. See, Sec. 107(8).

The Republican legislation is broadly drafted to include HMOs, insurance companies, nursing homes, and drug and device manufacturers for a broad range of liabilities including suits by physicians against those companies. The full extent to which H.R. 534 protects the wrongdoings of these companies is still unknown.

TITLE I—REDUCING FRIVOLOUS LAWSUITS

Sec. 101—Statute of Limitations. This section limits the amount of time during which a patient can file a medical malpractice action to the later of three years from the date of injury or three years from the date the patient discovers (or through the use of reasonable diligence should have discovered) the injury. Children under the age of 18 have the later of three years from their eighteenth birthday or three years from the date the patient discovers (or through the use of reasonable diligence should have discovered) the injury.

The Republican legislation limits it to the earlier of three years from the date an injury "manifests" itself or one year from the date discovered, but in no event can it exceed three years. This makes it more akin to a statute of repose than a statute of limitations. H.R. 534 also establishes a statute of repose for children injured under the age of six that is the later of three years from the date of manifestation or prior to the minor's eighth birthday.

Sec. 102—Health Care Specialist Affidavit. This section requires an affidavit by a qualified specialist before any medical malpractice action may be filed. An extension may be granted for such an affidavit if at the time the claim is brought, the claimant has not been able to obtain medical records or other information necessary for the affidavit. A "Qualified Specialist" is a health care professional with knowledge of the relevant facts of the case, expertise in the specific area of practice, and in the case of an action against a physician, board certification in a specialty relating to the area of practice.

Although the Republicans claim their legislation would limit frivolous claims, H.R. 534 does nothing to ensure that the claims filed by plaintiffs are legitimate. H.R. 534 has no certification process prior to the filing of a medical malpractice lawsuit. H.R. 534 only restricts the rights of injured patients and physicians in meritorious lawsuits.

Sec. 103—Sanctions for Frivolous Actions and Pleadings. This section reduces the frivolous lawsuits by requiring that every document in a medical malpractice action be signed by at least one attorney of record. Any unsigned paper is stricken. Second, all plaintiff attorneys who file a medical malpractice action are required to certify that the case is meritorious. Attorneys who erroneously file such a certificate are subject to strict civil penalties. First time violators, the court shall require the attorney to pay costs and attorneys fees or administer other appropriate sanctions. Second time violators, the court shall also require the attorney to pay a monetary fine. Third time violators, the court shall also refer the attorney to the appropriate State bar association for disciplinary proceedings.

The Republican legislation does not have a provision that directly addresses the filing of frivolous lawsuits. H.R. 534 only restricts the rights of injured patients and physicians in meritorious lawsuits.

Sec. 104—Mandatory Mediation. This section establishes a mandatory alternative dispute resolution (ADR) system for medical malpractice cases. Participation in mediation shall be in lieu of any other ADR method required by law or by contractual arrangements by the parties. States also have the option to allow arbitration. Any party dissatisfied with the result reached through ADR will not be bound by this result and all statements, offers and communication made as part of ADR would be inadmissible as part of an adjudication. A similar approach is recommended by the Committee for Economic Development (CED), which suggests that defendants make and victims accept "early offers." The effect of the "early offer" program, according to the CED, is that defendants will reduce the likelihood of incurring litigation costs, and victims would obtain fair compensation without the delay, expense, or trauma of litigation.

The Republican legislation does not address alternative dispute resolution methods to reduce the number of medical malpractice actions that are litigated. The sole remedy of the Republican legislation is tort reform that will restrict the rights of those who have been legitimately wronged.

Sec. 105—Punitive Damages. This section limits the circumstances under which a claimant can seek punitive damages in a medical malpractice action. It also allocates 50% of any punitive damages that are awarded to a trust fund managed by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The money in the trust fund must be used for activities that reduce medical errors and improve patient safety. The Secretary will promulgate regulations that will establish programs and procedures to carry out this objective. See also, Sec. 221-223.

The Republican legislation raises the evidentiary standard, provides an exemption for FDA approved drugs or devices, and caps punitive damages at the greater of twice the economic damages or \$250,000.

Sec. 106—Reduction in Premiums. This section requires medical malpractice insurance companies to annually project the savings that will result from Title I of the bill. Insurance companies must then develop and implement a plan to annually dedicate at least 50% of those savings to reduce the insurance premiums that medical professionals pay. Insurance companies must report these activities to HHS annually. The section provides for civil penalties for the noncompliance of insurance companies.

TITLE II—MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE REFORM

Sec. 201—Prohibition on Anti-competitive Activities by Medical Malpractice Insurers. This section would repeal McCarran-Ferguson Act to ensure that insurers do not engage in price fixing. The Act, enacted in 1945, exempts all anti-competitive insurance industry practices, except boycotts, from the Federal antitrust laws. Over the years, even oversight of the insurance industry by the States, coupled with no possibility of Federal antitrust enforcement, have created an environment that fosters a wide range of anti-competitive practices.

Sec. 202—Medical Malpractice Insurance Price Comparison. This section creates an internet site at which health care providers could obtain the price charged for the type of coverage the provider seeks from any malpractice insurer licensed in the doctor's

state. This section specifies the availability of online forms and that all information will remain confidential.

The Republican bill does nothing to address the flaws apparent in the medical malpractice insurance marketplace and the regulation of that market. The sole remedy of the Republican legislation is tort reform that will restrict the rights of those who have been legitimately wronged.

Sec. 203—Procedural Requirements for Proposed Rate Increases. This section allows any health care professional to challenge a proposed rate increase of medical malpractice insurance in a State administrative proceeding. It also requires that before it implements any rate increase, an insurance provider submit to the appropriate state agency a description of and justification for the rate increase.

TITLE III—ENHANCING PATIENT ACCESS TO CARE THROUGH DIRECT ASSISTANCE

Sec. 301—Grants and Contracts Regarding Health Provider Shortages. This section authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants or contracts through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to health care providers who choose to work in geographic areas that have a shortage of one or more types of health providers as a result of dramatic increases in malpractice insurance premiums.

Sec. 302—Health Professional Assignments to Trauma Centers. This section amends the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary to send physicians from the National Health Service Corps to trauma centers that are in danger of closing (or losing their trauma center status) due to dramatic increases in malpractice premiums.

The Republican legislation does not directly address the access to care issue caused by rising malpractice premiums. The sole remedy of the Republican legislation is tort reform that will restrict the rights of those who have been legitimately wronged.

TITLE IV—INDEPENDENT ADVISORY COMMISSION ON MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE

Sec. 401–402—Independent Advisory Commission on Medical Malpractice Insurance. This section establishes the national Independent Advisory Commission on Medical Malpractice Insurance. The Commission must evaluate the causes and scope of the recent and dramatic increases in medical malpractice insurance premiums, formulate additional proposals to reduce those premiums, and make recommendations to avoid any such increases in the future. In formulating its proposals, the Commission must, at a minimum, consider a variety of enumerated factors.

The Republican legislation only addresses tort reform and does not examine other causes of malpractice premium costs.

Sec. 403—Report. This section requires the Commission to file an initial report with Congress within 180 days of enactment and to file annual reports until the Commission terminates.

Sec. 404—Membership. This section specifically establishes the number and type of commissioners that the Comptroller General of the United States must appoint to the Commission. Generally, the membership of the Commission will include individuals with national recognition for their expertise in health finance and economics, actuarial science, medical malpractice insurance, insurance regulation, health care law, health care policy, health care access, allopathic and osteopathic physicians, other providers of health care services, patient advocacy, and other related fields, who provide a mix of different professionals, broad geographic representations, and a balance between urban

and rural representatives. Members of the commission will be appointed for three year staggered terms.

Sec. 405—Director and Staff, Experts and Consultants. This section allows the Commission to hire personnel and contract services necessary to perform its duties.

Sec. 406—Powers. This section allows the Commission to secure from any department or agency information necessary to carry out its purpose. It also requires that the Commission be subject to a periodic audit by the Comptroller General.

Sec. 407—Authorization of Appropriations. This section authorizes that such sums be appropriated to the Commission for five fiscal years.

TITLE V—MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 501—Establishment. This section creates within the Department of Health and Human Services an administration that will collect and evaluate information on the medical malpractice insurance market. Such information includes the frequency of medical malpractice claims paid, the severity of such claims, the portion of claims paid as settlements, the portion of claims paid as a result of a trial, and the division in claims between economic and non-economic damages. The section also requires that insurance companies submit the above data to the administration. The administrator may compel submittal and there will be a civil money penalty for not submitting the data.

Sec. 502—Authorization of Appropriations. This section authorizes appropriations for the administration.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POLISH SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the Workers' Strikes in Poland. In commemorating these strikes, we are remembering the birth of a movement which led to the fall of communism in Poland and, later, Europe.

The strikes began as workers across Poland protested the nearly 80% rise in meat prices. In the northern city of Gdansk, workers protested in response to the dismissal of two workers on the grounds of political agitation. The Lenin Shipyard workers staged a sit-in and demanded the reinstatement of electrician Lech Walesa and crane operator Anna Walentynowich. The workers realized the power of their unity and chose to name their strike bulletin *Solidarność* or Solidarity. Soon after, the first independent trade-union faction emerged and the Solidarity movement was born.

In cooperation with intellectuals, the Gdansk Shipyard strikers created the famed list of 21 demands. The Solidarity Movement boasted members from almost all groups and social classes—all of whom opposed the Moscow-backed regime. This unity was a first in the history of Poland. In December of 1981 the Communist government of Poland implemented martial law in hopes of combating the Solidarity Movement's vast popularity.

Despite the best efforts of the communist government, another strike wave occurred in

1988. The regime decided it must try to share its power with the opposition. The elections of June of 1989 brought the Solidarity Movement to power and Poland was able to set up a non-communist government. The victory of the Poles served as an example to the rest of Europe and is credited with leading to the historic fall of the Berlin wall five months later.

When the Solidarity Party took power in 1989, the basic political transition and the implementation of a market economy posed many challenges. Furthermore, they faced the daunting task of overcoming the social mindset resulting from years of communist rule. Nonetheless, in January of 1990, the government sought to realize substantial reform goals. The conversion was not easy and the market-economy caused an economic crisis in 1992. However, true to their history, the Poles overcame this obstacle. We should all look to our great ally as a model of determination, resilience and loyalty.

Over 11 million Americans claim Polish ancestry, nearly 900,000 of whom live in my home state of Michigan. Polish-Americans, like me, are proud of our heritage and Poland has shown itself to be a true ally of the U.S., most recently in Iraq. They have supported us in our struggle against global terrorism, in Afghanistan and assumed a leading role in Iraq. Two-hundred Polish troops are currently serving in Bagram, Afghanistan and our alliance with Poland remains one of our vital relationships. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in recognizing the 25th anniversary of a momentous event in the history of one of our strongest allies and greatest friends. The strikes in Poland will always be remembered for their important role in Polish democratization and, consequently, the end of the Cold War.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, July 14, 2005 I was unable to vote on several matters because I was testifying before the Los Angeles regional BRAC hearing on behalf of Naval Base Ventura County. Had I been present, I would have voted: "no" on the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 6, the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (rollcall vote 373); "yes" on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3100, the East Asia Security Act of 2005 (rollcall vote 374); "yes" on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 356, Condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks in London, England on July 7, 2005 (rollcall vote 375); "no" on Rohrabacher amendment to H.R. 2864, the Water Resources Development Act of 2005 (rollcall vote 376); "no" on the Flake amendment to H.R. 2864, the Water Resources Development Act of 2005 (rollcall vote 377); "yes" on passage of H.R. 2864, the Water Resources Development Act of 2005 (rollcall vote 378); and "yes" on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 191, Commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the conclusion of the War in the Pacific and honoring the veterans of both the Pacific and Atlantic theaters of the Second World War (rollcall 379).

IN REMEMBRANCE OF J.J. JAKE
PICKLE

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, my dear friend, Jake Pickle, has left us but he will be remembered for both his accomplishments as a great Congressman and his ability to make everyone laugh.

He was a special man—a man who prided himself in his sense of justice and a man who could tell a “hell of a good story.”

Jake Pickle and I joined the Ways and Means Committee together in the 94th Congress. It was after Rep. Helstoski was defeated in the next election, that I got the privilege of sitting next to Jake for the remainder of his career in the House of Representatives. What an experience it was.

He squeaked green plastic pickles at me (from deep in his pocket) and taught me how to de-shell two pecans with one hand and a single squeeze (and then eat them and throw the hulls under our desks with no one knowing). Over time, we became a team and sent juicy pecans to Members sitting down the row from us. Jake always thought that “everyone should have a little something in their tummies to do good work.”

Jake Pickle and I became close personal friends over the years (as did our wives, Beryl and Alma). We could not have come from more different backgrounds—the inner-city of New York and the rolling hills of Texas. Yet, he became one of the Members I respected most for his sheer determination, unending zeal, and ability to truly develop bipartisan relationships.

J.J. Pickle served in the Congress for 31 years representing the Texas 10th Congressional District—from December 1963–January 1995. All agree that Jake was a class act, a star, and someone to love because he loved back.

I am one of the special few who signed his red pump organ—a treasure of his that he took home with him to Austin upon retirement and kept in his house. Signing the organ meant that you meant something to him.

J.J. Pickle was very, very proud of his Congressional record. He would be the first to tell you that he did not seek to be famous, to be a Senator, to be Governor, or to be President. What Jake Pickle wanted to be was “The Darn Best Congressman” for his Congressional District and even a better one for his country. That he was, and more.

Jake became Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee’s Social Security Subcommittee in the early 1980s and led the charge for solving the system’s financial problems. (It is too bad he is not with us now to do it again—on a bipartisan basis and in a prudent way.) The picture of Pickle standing next to President Reagan signing the “Social Security Amendments of 1983” is a classic of the decade.

Jake moved on and became Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee’s Oversight Subcommittee for 10 years. One of his proudest accomplishments was reforming the tax code penalties so that they were fair to taxpayers. His face adorned the cover of a major tax publication titled, “Congress At Its Best.”

Pickle was relentless in many ways. Once he drafted a “Taxpayer Bill of Rights,” it was his personal goal to see it enacted into law—and it was.

Once he learned that some TV evangelists were stealing from the public, it was his personal goal that they visit the Committee and change—and they did.

Once he learned that tax-exempt organizations were being used as fronts for illegal activities; it was his goal that the Justice Department intervene—and they did.

Once he learned that workers’ pension plans were not funded properly; it was his goal to change the law to protect retirees—and he succeeded.

Even to the end, he was counseling us (Members and staff) about the issues Congress needed to “get a rope around and move it.”

So I will close with the following: I missed Jake when he retired from Congress in 1995. But now I miss him more. He was a good man and he will not be forgotten.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF J.J. JAKE
PICKLE

SPEECH OF

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I did not just like Jake Pickle; I loved Jake Pickle. Congressman Pickle was one of the finest public servants to have ever served in this House, and he was a true Texas treasure. He was a kind, decent, caring human being who spent his entire life making life better for others. Whether it was helping a veteran receive health care, bringing research dollars, and he brought many of them, to his beloved University of Texas or saving the Social Security system in 1983, Jake was always dedicated to helping others.

Jake Pickle’s faith was shown time and time again as he lived the commandment to love thy neighbor. Jake Pickle lived every day with another biblical verse, “This is the day the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.” Jake lived every day joyfully. He lit up a room when he walked into it because of his joyful, positive approach to life. His positive approach has enlightened the lives of all of us blessed to have known him.

Jake Pickle exemplified courage when he voted as a freshman Congressman from Texas to pass the Civil Rights Act which brought to reality the promise of equal opportunity to millions of African-Americans. He did it because it was the right thing to do, even though it could have ended his political career.

I want to tell one story about my friend Jake Pickle. In June of 1994, he and I were part of a U.S. congressional delegation on the 50th anniversary of D-Day. After the ceremony on June 4 of 1994, our bus was about to leave to go back to a hotel an hour to 2 hours away. I noticed Jake getting off the bus by himself. I stopped, walked up to him and said, “Jake, what are you doing? And he said, Why don’t you come with me, Chet?”

So I followed Jake Pickle off that bus. We walked several hundred yards. We went to Point du Hoc, that monument to American GI

courage on D-Day when Colonel Earl Rudder led Rudder’s Army Rangers up that stiff cliff against murderous fire by the Germans above them. It turned out that Jake Pickle and Earl Rudder roomed together after the death of Jake’s first wife when then General Rudder was serving as land commissioner in Austin, Texas.

So that June day in 1994, Jake Pickle got off the bus, not knowing how he would get back to his hotel in France, to go pay his respects to his personal friend and fellow Texan and American, Earl Rudder, the hero along with America’s Rangers at Point du Hoc. That was the character of Jake Pickle. Our Nation will miss Jake Pickle, but the world is a better place today because of his life of dedicated public service.

Mr. Speaker, Winston Churchill once said that we make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give. By that high standard, Jake Pickle led a rich life, a life that enriched everyone of us blessed to have known him.

Goodbye, my friend, until we meet another day. Thank you for the memories. Thank you for your friendship. Thank you for making America and the world a better place.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF J.J. JAKE
PICKLE

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mr. MCCAUL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Texas and our Nation has lost one of its most genuine and gracious public servants. Last Saturday morning, James Jarell Pickle, “Jake,” passed away on Saturday, with his wife by his side. For 31 years, Congressman Jake Pickle represented my hometown in this esteemed body as a Representative to the 10th Congressional District of Texas. And he did so with integrity, humility, honor, and a sense of humor that we should all attempt to mirror.

As a current holder of Congressman Pickle’s seat, I work hard every day to provide the same kind of service to my constituents that Jake Pickle did to those he served. He was not just good at what he did, he was the best.

His family talks about the proudest vote he ever cast was in 1964 when he voted for the Civil Rights Act. He was one of only six southern Representatives to vote for that important piece of legislation. In the 1980s, he worked hours on end to protect Social Security and keep it solvent. He worked even harder in the 1990s to turn Austin into the high-tech society that it is today.

It is because of Jake Pickle that Austin continues to see new high-tech businesses locate to Texas’s capital city. The University of Texas has also benefited greatly because of Jake Pickle. UT would not be churning out the latest in technology and new patents, as it now does every year, without the help that Congressman Pickle provided. It is also my honor to represent the research arm of the University of Texas which bears the name J.J. Pickle Research Campus.

But even as good and as smart a politician as he was, he is known today not for his ability to influence legislation or to help bring new

business to his district, but rather for being a good and decent man. It is for this reason his nickname was Gentleman Jake. This gentleman served in the Navy during World War II, and worked his way through college by delivering milk to Austin homeowners. During his first congressional campaign and every time after when he was out in public, he was shaking the hands of those he served. He enjoyed hearing about their lives and telling stories about his. He listened to their problems and sometimes used his own money to fix whatever problems they were having.

Representative Jake Pickle was a good man who will be terribly missed by all who knew him.

So tonight as I stand in the well of this esteemed body, a place so loved and respected by Jake, I am comforted in the thought that the Lord above is thankful to have this great servant back home in heaven where I am sure he is telling stories and shaking the hands of everyone that he meets.

COMMENDING THE CONTINUING
IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
AND THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

SPEECH OF

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the historic state visit of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of India. This visit comes at a time of ever-warming relations between the United States and India as these two great nations build partnerships in commerce, security, science, health, and technology. At a time of great global unease and change, our proud country has found a fast friend in India.

In this chamber tomorrow, the Prime Minister will deliver a momentous address to our Joint Session of Congress. His presence in this house will send an unequivocal message to the government and the people of India. That message is that the United States stands in full support of the Indian commitment to democracy, peace, and prosperity. This address will show Indian and American citizens the significance of the enduring relationship between our two great nations.

The United States and India have been partners in the birth of freedom, in 1776 and 1947, from which we grew to be the world's oldest and largest democracies. Let us now be partners in the war against terror as we fight for a more secure existence. Let us be partners in trade and economic growth that benefits all citizens. Let us be partners in scientific and technological advances that promote the collective well-being. Let us be partners in expanding access to first-class health care and quality education. Let us be partners in our strong values, our commitment to our families, and our belief in humanity.

Let the occasion of Prime Minister Singh's address also highlight the advances and contributions of Indian-Americans. The pioneers of this community first settled in California in the

mid-1800s and worked as farmers. This tiny minority was not granted the right to American citizenship until 1947 and faced severe visa restrictions until 1965. From such humble beginnings, Indian-Americans have grown dramatically to a national population of 1.9 million. They are now the fastest growing Asian-American group in our great Nation. My district in Ohio is home to 2,480 Indian-Americans, who make vital contributions to our economy, culture, and society.

Mr. Speaker, from my first visit to India in 1977 to having an Indian-American intern in my office every year since 1994, I have grown to appreciate and value the gifts of this nation to the world. I am thankful and proud to host Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in the United States. I call on my colleagues to work tirelessly to strengthen our growing relationship and forge new ties with the great nation of India.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF
BRENDA PILLORS, PHD (JULY 20,
1952-JUNE 12, 2005)

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, God's whisper to come on home to Brenda [Brenda Pillors], our sister in service and life, on the frontlines in the battles and opportunities to improve life and health for all, came on June 12, 2005.

It is with honor that I present this special tribute in memory of our outstanding colleague and dear friend, Brenda Pillors, Chief of Staff to Congressman ED TOWNS. Today, July 20th marks what would have been a celebration of Brenda's earthly birthday. Colleagues, family and friends know personally that Brenda did so very, very much to improve the lives and the quality thereof for people everywhere and across all walks of life.

Brenda's impact on health legislation, policy and all other aspects thereof remains from that on minority health and health disparities, to health professions, to children's and women's health; from Medicare and Medicaid, to healthcare reform, to health commissions and agency advisory councils, to the National Health Service Corps; from NIH, to FDA, to SAMHSA, to CDC, to HRSA, to AHRQ, to OMH, to OCR, to IOM; for HIV/AIDS, to diabetes, to obesity, to sickle cell disease, to cancer, to heart disease; from clinical trials, to life trials; from bioengineering, to health technology, to alternative medicine; from behavioral health, to workforce diversity, to affirmative action.

Brenda Pillors was always there—from pharmacology, to immunology, to vaccines; from hospitals, to community health centers, to men's health; from environmental health, to health justice, to nutrition, to birth defects; from the uninsured and underinsured, to urban and rural health; from infant mortality, to head start, to mental health; from nurses, to doctors, to specialists, to community health workers, to researchers; to private and public sector officials; from you to me. Her impact goes on and on—you know Brenda's tremendous heart, impact and reach.

We will always remember you Brenda—your dedication, your commitment, your leadership, your expertise and your understanding, and indeed your smile, your laughter and your voice. Brenda Pillors—truly a leader in public service and servant in God's army of service and love.

My "Sister," we will miss you always—your legacy of achievements is written in the hearts of the lives of those you have helped and touched in oh so many, many ways. Your presence and legacy is embedded in the walls and along the halls of the U.S. Congress, and is written in legislation, Congressional hearing questions and transcripts, hearing reports, committee and conference reports, agency reports and justifications, and throughout the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Brenda was and truly lived the "purpose driven life." Thousands, upon thousands, upon thousands, upon thousands of lives have been improved and in fact many saved, and futures are much brighter because of Brenda's life and works. The majority of the people who have and will benefit from her works will never know her. Even the lives of generations to come will benefit from her work. We have always been proud of Brenda.

Dear Brenda, we thank you, and we salute you and we honor you—our "sister in service striving throughout her life to ensure justice and equality for all—Brenda Pillors, PhD."

Reflections of our love, appreciation and respect for Brenda Pillors, on this day which would have marked her 53rd birthday. From me to you, we thank God and your family for sharing you with us, the Nation and the world—Fredette (Fredette West).

THE 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ILLEGAL TURKISH INVASION
AND OCCUPATION OF CYPRUS

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and bring attention to the illegal Turkish invasion and occupation of Cyprus. It was 31 years ago today that Turkey invaded Cyprus. During the invasion they expelled 200,000 Greek-Cypriots from their homes and neighborhoods, making them refugees overnight. Turkish troops killed 5,000 Greek-Cypriots, of which 1,500 are still missing. There have been 30,000 Turkish troops occupying the island nation of Cyprus ever since.

It is the proper role of the Members of the United States Congress to not only condemn the brutal Turkish invasion of 1974, but also to urge the next step in addressing the issues of the past. We must promote a plan for reunification that addresses the serious concerns of all Cypriots. We must encourage Turkish-Cypriot leaders and their Greek-Cypriot counterparts to negotiate in good faith. We must show the world that the reunification of Cyprus is a priority for the United States.

On the 31st anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, we grieve for those killed during the invasion, and we lament the lost opportunities for reunification over the years. We urge both parties to continue to work toward a reunited and peaceful Cyprus.

ACKNOWLEDGING AFRICAN DESCENDANTS OF THE TRANS-ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE IN ALL OF THE AMERICAS

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 175, a resolution acknowledging African descendants of the transatlantic slave trade in all of the Americas and recommending that the United States and the international community work to improve the situation of Afro-descendant communities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The early history of the Americas is plagued with immeasurable acts of violence and inhumane cruelties. The establishment of the transatlantic slave trade is merely one of numerous blemishes that remain a part of our troubled past. From the late fifteenth through nineteenth centuries, an estimated ten million Africans were abducted, bound and shipped as human cargo to the Americas.

These men, women and children were used to build the foundation of nations spanning Latin America, North America and the Caribbean. Words can hardly do justice to the struggle these individuals faced on a daily basis. Working endless hours through unbearable conditions, African slaves constantly fought a losing battle to survive. Though disbanded several hundred years ago, the legacy of this institution remains imbedded in our societies even today.

African descendants throughout the Americas have historically suffered from societal and governmental marginalization. In the United States, African descendants experience disproportionately high infant mortality, illiteracy and poverty rates. As a nation, we have worked to fight against these racial disparities, yet they continue to persist.

Only recently have similar trends been analyzed and acknowledged in Latin American and Caribbean countries. This fight is ongoing both at home and abroad. We must extend our reach beyond domestic policy to advance an international discussion of racial issues.

Though America aspires to lead the world in the realm of economic policies and technological innovation, it constantly falls short of promoting racial equality. As pioneers in all other industries, it is our duty to be at the forefront of all efforts geared towards amending the social and economic disparities that continue to haunt African descendants in the Americas.

The largest number of Afro-descendants living outside of Africa can be found in Latin America and the Caribbean. These individuals share in our early history and suffer from the residual effects that are evidenced in our own communities. It is equally our responsibility to aid and assist Latin American and Caribbean nations' efforts to overcome their institutionalized racial disparities. Our common past will forever link our futures.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution serves as a reminder of the history shared amongst the Americas. The emancipation of all men, though boldly declared by many nations throughout the nineteenth century, remains to

be realized. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution as a necessary step in addressing the racial inequities that persist in North America, Latin America and the Caribbean.

HONORING HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE OF CENTRAL KENTUCKY

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, in 1979, a small group of health care professionals and lay volunteers in Elizabethtown began meeting to explore the idea of establishing a hospice in Hardin County. On April 24, 1980, the Elizabethtown Area Hospice (EAH) served its first patient. The agency was staffed entirely by volunteers who provided care for patients and families living in and around Elizabethtown. In 1986, EAH became fully certified by Medicaid and Medicare. The next year EAH changed its name to the Hospice of Central Kentucky (HCK) and expanded its services to include five counties: Hardin, LaRue, Grayson, Meade, and Breckinridge. In 1989, HCK also began offering its services to patients living in Marion and Washington counties. In the spring of 1990, Taylor, Green and Adair counties became a part of HCK's service area.

As the organization has grown and expanded its services, its base of operations has also changed. EHA was first headquartered in a small office in Hardin Memorial Hospital. Over the years, HCK has moved to different locations around Elizabethtown as the agency grew. After a successful capital campaign in 1993, HCK moved into its new main office building located on Diecks Drive in Elizabethtown. Since expanding its services to Taylor County in 1990, HCK has operated a satellite office in Campbellsville.

A significant milestone in HCK's history occurred in 1996 when HCK joined with Hospice of Louisville to form the Alliance of Community Hospices, Inc. The following year HCK received its first certification from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

During its 25 years of existence, Hospice & Palliative Care has provided high-quality end-of-life care services to thousands of patients and their families living in the Central Kentucky area. In 2004, HCK provided almost 30,000 patient days of care to 625 patients and their families. These services include pain and symptom control, medication management, personal care, emotional and spiritual support, volunteer assistance and bereavement care. In addition to providing core hospice services, HCK also employs a children's counselor to provide children and adolescents with specialized counseling and support. HCK also sponsors a grief camp, Camp Evergreen, for grieving children and their families.

Licensed by the state of Kentucky, HCK accepts Medicare, Medicaid and many forms of private insurance. With the help of donations from the community, HCK provides care for seriously ill patients and their families living in the Central Kentucky area regardless of their ability to pay for services.

While HCK has grown and changed in many ways over the years, one thing has always re-

mained constant and that is the agency's commitment to providing the highest quality, most compassionate care possible to patients with terminal illnesses and their families. HCK dedicates its 25th anniversary to its patients and families. Their courage and their faith, in the midst of illness and loss, is a source of inspiration to others.

KELLY'S BODY SHOP, ONE OF THE WINNERS OF THE 2005 CALIFORNIA SMALL BUSINESS AWARD

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Benjamin Mendoza, Sr., owner of Kelly's Body Shop in Santa Ana, California.

Kelly's Body Shop was opened in 1978 by three separate owners but was then bought in 1994 by Mr. Mendoza who consolidated its ownership.

Over the past 12 years, under Mr. Mendoza's ownership and strong management skills, Kelly's Body Shop has become one of the most successful businesses in Santa Ana, almost tripling its production and revenue in 2001.

Mr. Mendoza considers it the mission of Kelly's Body Shop to provide quality, timely and satisfactory repairs and services to all of its customers and the people of Santa Ana, California.

It is for these reasons that on June 15, 2005, the California Small Business Association awarded Mr. Mendoza a Small Business Award for his contribution and dedication to the city and people of Santa Ana.

Kelly's Body Shop is an example of a successful business in California that continues to give back to its community. I believe that Mr. Benjamin Mendoza, Sr., will continue to expand his commitment to the communities he serves.

LOUISVILLE YOUTH CHOIR TO TOUR AUSTRIA IN JUNE 2006

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the recent selection of the Louisville Youth and Children's Choir to represent Kentucky and perform in the 2006 Mozart Youth Choral Festival in Salzburg and Vienna, Austria, in celebration of the 250th anniversary of Amadeus Mozart's birth. Receiving the opportunity to perform in Austria, home of the musical capital of the world, is a great honor and wonderful experience for these young musicians.

Founded in 1967 by Italo Taranta, a former Professor of Music and Choral Conductor at the University of Louisville School of Music, the Louisville Youth and Children's Choir is the city's premier children's and youth choral training program, composed of young talent throughout metropolitan Louisville representing

grades 4–12. Its repertoire has as much diversity as it has breadth, incorporating music from a broad range of cultural styles, from key classical and modern works to voice and instrumental soloist performances.

Invitation to this international music festival is a testament to the Louisville Youth and Children's Choir's passion for excellence in singing and choral performance, which has captivated audiences for nearly thirty years. Thanks in no small measure to Mr. Don Scott Carpenter, Executive Director, and Mrs. Terri E. Foster, Director of Operations, the Louisville Youth and Children's Choir will be sharing their talents with their European peers and perhaps, new musical friendships will form as a result.

Next summer, the hills will indeed be alive with the sound of music. The Louisville Youth and Children's Choir will be performing in two of the original venues where Amadeus Mozart himself performed: the Salzburg Dom (or Cathedral) and the Votivkirche (Votiv Church) in Vienna. In fact, not only did Mozart perform here but he was also employed as the Cathedral's Choral Director. In addition to visiting the many historical, artistic and cultural sites in Austria, the Louisville Youth and Children's Choir will have the great honor of performing under the co-directorship of Janos Czifra, who is the Cathedral's present Choral Director, and Dr. Z. Randall Stroope, one of America's foremost conductors and composers. I can only imagine the thrill this must be for a group of young music performers and enthusiasts.

I am incredibly proud of such a talented group of artists which, next year, will find itself immersed with the sights and sounds that inspired some of the world's greatest musical geniuses such as Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert, and Strauss. Mozart mastered his first piece when he was five years old and, in time, performed before French and English royal courts. In their own special way, these young artists will be following in Mozart's footsteps when they perform in the great halls of history.

Mr. Speaker, I join the state of Kentucky in praising the Louisville Youth and Children's Choir for their persistence and hard work. I would like to offer heartfelt congratulations for this most recent honor and I wish them the very best in Austria.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. ALBERT R. ROBBINS

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Albert R. Robbins. Known to most of his friends as Al or "Abbie," he has been a well respected pillar of the community and a man of many accomplishments since his early years.

Mr. Robbins has been a life long resident of Philadelphia. A product of the Abington Public School System, Abbie served our country with honor as a member of the US Army's 5th Division in Europe. He resumed his education after completing his tour of duty, earning a Bachelor of Science Degree from Cheyney State Teachers College in 1959. Sports and music have always been an important part of his life. While at Cheyney, he sang with the

traveling choir for four years and was a member of the football team. While beginning his career as an Industrial Arts teacher in the Pottstown School District, he enrolled in graduate courses at Temple University and Penn State for his Masters degree in education. In 1964, during the Civil rights movement, Al broke through color barriers by becoming the first African American bus driver hired by Eastern Greyhound Lines where he worked part time until 1980.

Mr. Robbins has been a member of countless public service organizations, including the Sanctuary Choir of the St. Paul's Baptist Church of Philadelphia, LAAP, ALAA, NEA, PABA, NAACP, Pottstown Education Assoc., and the Montgomery County Industrial Arts Association. He is also a past commander of V.F.W. Post 3389 and a lifetime member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

Mr. Robbins is retiring after 34 years of service in the field of Technology and Education with many great accomplishments. In recognition of his years of service I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to congratulate him on his retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL
MICHAEL L. HOLMES

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding Naval Officer, Rear Admiral Michael L. Holmes. Admiral Holmes is a member of the Lumbee Indian Tribe and hails from Lumberton, North Carolina. After graduating from Pembroke State University in 1972, he was commissioned as a Naval Officer and designated a Naval Aviator. Admiral Holmes has served with distinction for nearly 32 years in the Navy, including several tours in command of operational forces and several important staff positions. Admiral Holmes is a person of tremendous talent, determined drive, and rich personality. His record of achievement is among the most remarkable on a long and distinguished list of military officers hailing from the Tar Heel State. He displays leadership that inspires others to give their all and puts them at ease as they strive to excel. He embodies the core values of honor, courage, and commitment. This great North Carolinian continues to bring great credit and honor to his native state, to his people, and to his family. As a nation, we are indeed honored by his long, faithful, and productive service to our country.

Admiral Holmes will retire from the United States Navy on October 1st, 2005. Mr. Speaker, Mike Holmes and his wife, Vee, have made many sacrifices during his long and illustrious career, and I offer a profound thanks to him from the citizens of North Carolina's Seventh Congressional District for his service. As they embark on the next great adventure beyond their beloved Navy, may God's strength, joy, and peace be with them both.

RECOGNIZING MS. MELISSA FYE
AND MR. JIM JENKINS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two outstanding constituents and educators from the 10th Congressional District of Virginia. Melissa Fye and Jim Jenkins are to be commended for their extraordinary efforts to bring real scientific research to the classroom.

Melissa Fye, elementary school teacher at Ashburn Elementary School in Ashburn, VA, and Jim Jenkins, elementary school teacher at Mountain View Elementary School in Purcellville, VA, were chosen by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to participate in the Teacher at Sea Program. This three-week-long research program involved a trip to sea in the Pacific Ocean this spring. As Teachers at Sea, Ms. Fye participated in coral reef research and Mr. Jenkins participated in fisheries and ocean current research.

Ms. Fye embarked on NOAA Ship H'I'ALAKAI in Honolulu, Hawaii, and cruised in the waters of the south Pacific. Mr. Jenkins's cruise, on the other hand, explored cold Alaskan waters, where he embarked on NOAA Ship MILLER FREEMAN in Kodiak, Alaska, and disembarked in Dutch Harbor, Alaska. While onboard, Ms. Fye and Mr. Jenkins wrote lesson plans, maintained daily logs, took photographs, interviewed scientists, and engaged in dialogue with their students, other teachers and students, and the general public. Ms. Fye and Mr. Jenkins participated in the Teacher at Sea experience in order to enrich their curriculum and excite their students about the sciences.

In her final log, Ms. Fye wrote that she ". . . wants [her] students to know that life is not a collection of things, but a collection of experiences . . . [and hopes] this trip—the resources and anecdotal stories [she] brings back to the classroom—encourages them to explore opportunities as they arise in their own lives."

Mr. Jenkins engaged his students each day in daily e-mail messages. In one message, Mr. Jenkins told his students that he has ". . . been impressed by the cooperative spirit of everyone on [NOAA ship] MILLER FREEMAN," and, in turn, encouraged his students to work together as a team while he was at sea.

Both Ms. Fye and Mr. Jenkins were supported by a partnership between the Loudoun Education Foundation and the NOAA Teacher at Sea Program. I commend the Loudoun Education Foundation, and also the Loudoun County school district, for supporting the efforts of these two teachers to promote scientific education in the classroom.

I congratulate Ms. Fye and Mr. Jenkins on their spirit of adventure in the name of education, their willingness to try new things, and their ability to bring this experience back into the classroom.

ROBERT W. "BOBBY" HARRELL,
SPEAKER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary South Carolinian by congratulating the Honorable Robert W. "Bobby" Harrell, Jr. of Charleston on his recent election to Speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives.

Bobby Harrell was first elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1992 and quickly earned the respect of his fellow members. Bobby is a man of diligence, integrity, and ability. In 1994, he was appointed to the Ways and Means Committee, where he served as chairman of the Economic Development Subcommittee and the Public Education Subcommittee. He was elected chairman of the full committee in 1999.

Mr. Speaker, Bobby Harrell has always been a steadfast advocate for tax relief, educational opportunities, and economic development. As he begins his tenure as Speaker, I know he will continue to strive to assist all South Carolinians.

Bobby has excelled in every endeavor he has pursued, and his private life is no exception. He is a devoted family man with deep convictions. Bobby is married to Cathy Smith Harrell and is the proud father of two fine children, Trey and Charlotte. He and his family are members of the First Baptist Church of Charleston, where Bobby served as a deacon for many years. He is a successful entrepreneur, recently celebrating a quarter of a century operating a State Farm Insurance Agency and Oak Haven of Charleston, an assisted-living community. Additionally, Bobby has served as a leader in many national, State, and local civic and business organizations.

Mr. Speaker, Bobby Harrell is a good friend and I am proud to have the Speaker of the South Carolina House as a constituent. I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to join me in congratulating him on his recent election to Speaker and wishing him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

**COMMENDING THE CONTINUING
IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
AND THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA**

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM DELAY

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, the United States Congress will welcome His Excellency Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of the Republic of India.

His visit to the United States, and to this House in particular, is a symbol of the strong and vibrant relations between our two nations, the oldest and largest democracies on earth.

But the relationship between the United States and India is more than symbolic.

It is the natural alliance between democratic nations who value freedom, and will defend their people from tyranny and terror.

Since the Indian people achieved their independence from the British crown in 1947, their nation has become an example of political freedom and stability in a region that desperately needs it.

India's economy has become a global leader in trade, science, and health, and its education system annually produces some of the brightest and most innovative minds in the world.

India has become a valued trading partner with the United States, and a trusted ally in the global war on terror.

Internationally, the Indian people—together with Pakistan—in recent years have sought peaceful solutions to their differences, setting aside decades of open hostility.

And here at home, Indian-Americans have enriched our national culture by introducing generations of Americans to the philosophical, religious, and social traditions of their homeland.

My own district in the Houston region is home to tens of thousands of Indian-Americans, who have become an indelible part of our community in recent decades, a fact for which I and my fellow Texans are most grateful.

I am proud to sponsor this resolution commending Prime Minister Singh and his nation, and welcoming him to address the House and Senate tomorrow.

**TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERT R.
MANNINGS**

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the lifelong service of Mr. Robert R. Mannings. Serving in the armed service during the Korean War, Mannings selflessly devoted his life to his country and was honorably discharged in 1953. Thereafter, Mr. Mannings began his exemplary career in Philadelphia in 1958 as an employee of both North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company and Yellow Cab Company. Subsequently, he joined the Iron Workers Local 401 and served as a journeyman worker until his retirement in 1992.

As the president of the Dewey and Race Street Civic Organization for over 20 years, he improved the quality of his Philadelphia community and consequently was awarded the Philadelphia Most Beautiful Block award. Mannings' civic engagement extends to countless organizations including his active membership in the West Philadelphia New Life Development Association and the Mount Carmel Baptist Church for over 38 years.

A survivor of two bouts of severe cancer, Mannings' loyalty to the American Cancer Society compelled him to create an educational video portraying the success of cancer survivors. This video is widely shown at medical conventions, in physician offices and seminars.

Robert Mannings' devotion to his community never distracted him from his role as a loving husband to Frances E. Thomas, father of two

children, grandfather of five, and great grandfather of seven. In recognition of Mr. Robert R. Mannings' years of service to the city of Philadelphia, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to congratulate him on his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 19, 2005, I was unavoidably detained and therefore absent for rollcall vote 384, on agreeing to House Resolution 365. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 384.

**SOUTH CAUCASUS OPEN RAIL
LINK ACT**

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, United States foreign policy toward the South Caucasus nations is one of fostering regional stability and enhanced cooperation. I rise today to bring attention to the great injustice in relations in this region.

I speak today to stress my opposition and to move forward with legislation contesting the proposed railroad connecting Tbilisi, Georgia and Kars, Turkey. The proposed railroad would systematically bypass Armenia, and push them further into isolation.

As we all know, Turkey and Armenia have their differences. Although it is counterproductive to list those differences, instead I want to highlight the fact that it goes against United States policy to be in a position that further advances the turmoil in this region. The proposed legislation would bar U.S. support and funding for a rail link connecting Georgia and Turkey, but which directly averts Armenia.

Eight years ago, the former Turkish president and the former Georgian president meant to discuss the railroad that would "open a third frontier crossing between the two countries," providing further commerce and economic opportunity for the South Caucasus region. Both countries would benefit immensely from this railroad.

While I will always support commerce-based proposals that spawn economic development around the world, this proposal initiates commerce at the cost of another country's economic development. This is unacceptable.

This railroad would cost between \$400–\$800 million to construct, while a perfectly workable and capable rail link already exists. It is evident to all that this new rail system is being proposed for the specific reason of diverting commerce around Armenia.

The construction of the proposed railroad would be equivalent to the people of Ohio building a new bridge to Canada just to avoid traveling through Michigan. The United States government would never condone this action, and we should not be in the practice of condoning the actions set forth by the Turkish government.

The existing rail would be available for use within weeks of an agreement between Armenia, Turkey, and Georgia. Furthermore, the Armenian people are willing to forego using the rail until normal relations with Turkey are established. Mr. Speaker, although normal relations may still take some time, there is no reason to further shut Armenia out of the equation.

Moreover, the building of this railroad also highlights the ongoing struggle between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Known by all, Azerbaijan's main goal is to strangle Armenia into submission of Nagorno-Karabakh. This railroad does just that.

The United States and other countries around the world, including Turkey, need to allow these two countries to agree upon a solution regarding Nagorno-Karabakh. It is necessary that third parties remain neutral. The proposed railroad not only stunts the diplomatic progress between Armenia, Turkey and Azerbaijan, it unnecessarily blocks Armenia's economic and political progress.

I encourage my colleagues to look at the facts of this situation. The existing rail link would be available essentially as soon as possible and it would take a minimal amount of funding in order to get it usable again. Whereas, a new rail link would take months if not years to build, and would cost an estimated \$400–\$800 million. There should be no question as to which plan the United States supports.

PRAIRIE HORIZONS TRAIL OFFICIALLY OPENS

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the groups and individuals who made the Prairie Horizons Trail a reality for South-eastern Colorado. It has been an extremely long process, but the hard work has come to fruition with the official opening of the Prairie Horizons Trail. This trail is a part of the Trans-America Bicycle Trail.

This trail crosses the United States from Yorktown, VA to Astoria, OR and it passes through the beautiful Eastern Plains of Colorado's 4th Congressional District, with more than 100 miles of Highway 96.

Eastern Colorado communities and counties have come together to work on a plan for the trail corridor in the region, which has been named the Prairie Horizons Trail.

On July 1, 2005 Joy Lujan with the National Parks Service and Janet Frederick, Executive Director for the Kiowa County Economic Development Foundation, were met in Sugar City, Ordway, Crowley, and Olney Springs by county commissioners, mayors and community activists as the Prairie Horizons trail was officially opened.

Lujan and Frederick presented business owners with commemorative "Cyclists Welcome" signs and spoke briefly about the new brochures about the trail.

I am proud to represent Crowley County Commissioners Dwight Gardner and Matt Heimerich along with Sugar City Councilwoman Eleanor Neiffert, Ordway Mayor Nancy Moore, Wendy Pettit with the Colorado De-

partment of Transportation, Crowley County School Superintendent John McCleary, Olney Springs Mayor Deb DeVore, and the many other citizens who assisted in making this project possible. This is a wonderful addition to the Eastern Plains and to the communities in which this trail passes. It is my great honor to recognize the opening of the Prairie Horizons Trail.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMENDATION FOR THE LIFE OF MRS. IRENE LOCKETT

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this communication is forwarded on behalf of the constituents of Congressional District Three and myself as we pay tribute to the life of Irene Lockett.

We are all deeply and profoundly saddened by the loss of this gentle and loving spirit. Irene was a true believer in God and family. She encouraged us to be our very best in all we do, at all times. Throughout her life, her loving spirit was unshakeable, her will undaunted, her stature in the church she loved and in the community she cherished remained strong and led Pat, her daughter, and my sister, to pledge her life to public service. She was the wife of Walter Lockett, mother of Pat Lockett-Felder, a member of the Jacksonville, Florida City Council, a grandmother, a great-grandmother and a Matriarch to all, family and friends alike. She absorbed our fears and our tears with her gentle embrace. When I think of Irene Lockett, I am reminded of the words of Paul in the Book of 2nd Timothy, "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept my faith".

Though our hearts ache, our tears of pain are mixed with loving memories of her smile, her touch, and that gleam in her eyes telling each of us how much she loved us, even when words would not flow. She kept her promise—to love us, nurture us, guide us, and in her own way, she prepared us for this day. Weep not in mournful pain, shed tears of joy for Irene—no more pain, no more hurt—rest now in the arms of the Father who welcomes her home and whispers gently, "well done my child".

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT IN POLAND

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of H. Res. 328, and I rise on behalf of the more than 111,000 of my constituents who are of Polish descent to recognize the 25th anniversary of the workers' strikes in Poland in 1980. These strikes pressured the government to recognize the Soli-

darity Trade Union and, eventually, to enact fundamental changes in the government in Poland. It is my privilege to join with Poland, friends of Poland and people of Polish descent around the world in honoring this historic date.

The summer of 1980 was a turbulent time in Poland. Soviet domination resulted not only in political oppression but in deep economic crisis. In response to these conditions, workers were striking in several cities across the country. In 1979, the visit by Pope John II added to the hope and desire of all Polish people for change and demonstrated the possibility of mass independent movements.

The Independent and Self-Governing Solidarity Trade Union was established as a result of the Gdansk Accords signed on August 31, 1980 between striking workers and the communist government. In this agreement the government conceded to striking workers' requests and allowed them to form free trade unions, independent from the government and communist party, an unprecedented situation under the Iron Curtain.

By signing the accords the communist government hoped to appease workers while entrenching their power. To the government's great disappointment, the Solidarity Trade Union grew rapidly. By 1981, Solidarity boasted an unparalleled membership of nearly 10 million workers or more than a half of the Polish labor force and almost one third of the entire population. Employees from all sectors of economy and positions joined en masse, including workers, professionals, intellectuals, students and members of political opposition. The Solidarity Trade Union became a huge social and political movement, representing the Polish nation's aspirations for freedom, democracy and better living conditions after more than thirty-five years of communism and Soviet control.

However, the road to freedom was not easy. Seeing how popular and powerful the union was becoming, the communist government of Poland imposed Martial Law in 1981, followed by persecution, imprisonment and forced emigration of many Solidarity members, including Lech Walesa. Nonetheless, the banned Solidarity Trade Union kept aggravating both within Poland and abroad with the instrumental support of Pope John Paul II.

In 1989, the will of millions prevailed: the communist government gave in and held talks with the Solidarity Trade Union. These "round table negotiations" resulted in free elections to the National Assembly, won almost completely by candidates supported by the Solidarity Trade Union. Subsequently, the noncommunist prime minister was elected later that year, and in 1990, Lech Walesa, a former worker-electrician and the leader of the Solidarity Trade Union who had been instrumental in workers' strikes of 1980 and in the Gdansk Accords, became the first elected president of the newly non-communist Poland. Communism was peacefully overthrown.

Within a year, following the Polish example, the regimes in the Czech Republic, Hungary and East Germany had fallen. By 1991, communism was overthrown throughout Europe thanks to the inspiration of the Solidarity Trade Union.

With its long and rich history and traditions, Poland regained its rightful place among free and independent nations, first as a contributing partner in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO, and last year, as a full member of the European Union. Today, Poland

continues to be our staunch ally and steadfast friend in Europe in our fight against terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my 111,000 Polish American constituents, I am honored to recognize this important anniversary and honor the events in Poland 25 years ago that helped restore freedom and democracy in Poland and throughout Europe.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ELMER M. EVANS

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Elmer M. Evans on his retirement from Wyeth Pharmaceuticals. Mr. Evans' 24 years of contributions to the success of Wyeth has been recognized by many.

Mr. Evans began his climb up the Wyeth ladder as a Medical Sales Representative scouting Philadelphia as his territory. During his career, Elmer has been promoted nine times, each with increased responsibility. In July 2003, Elmer was appointed to the position of Executive Product Director. In this position, Elmer directed the global marketing strategy for one of the company's specialty products. During his career, Elmer has received numerous awards for sales performance and leadership in including the company's coveted Gold Cup and President's Golden Circle Awards, given only to the top 5 percent and 1 percent of sales personnel respectively.

Mr. Evans has been married to his college sweetheart, formerly Tanya M. Allen, for 20 years. Elmer and Tanya are the proud parents of two boys, Darren, 15, and Colin, 13.

Through Mr. Evans's hard work and dedication to his career and family, he retires with many great accomplishments. In recognition of his years of service to Wyeth, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to congratulate him on his retirement.

RANGEL FELLOWS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share an important and exciting program with my colleagues today. The Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Program was initiated from my desire that the State Department's Diplomatic Corps abroad would reflect the rich diversity represented by its people at home. The program presents young adults from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to learn, participate, and become a part of the United States' diplomatic relations.

The Honorable Gentleman from New York, Mr. SERRANO, has provided immeasurable support and commitment to this program and was of extraordinary service in commencing the program in 2001. I want to again thank him for his valuable contributions to the program.

Earlier this week, I met with the ten extremely talented Rangel Fellows who are enrolled in various graduate programs across the

country with a focus on international relations and related academic programs. It was tremendously rewarding to speak to and hear from these extraordinarily intelligent, enthusiastic, well-prepared, and committed young people; many of whom have already completed Overseas State Department Summer Internships through the program. These ten fellows are currently serving in the congressional offices of Representatives ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA (Fellows Melanie Bonner and Natalie Waugh), HAROLD E. FORD, Jr. (Fellow Rachel Hawkins), BARBARA LEE (Fellow Fonta Gilliam), ROBERT MENENDEZ (Fellow Breanna Green), GREGORY MEEKS (Fellow Zainab Zaid), DONALD M. PAYNE (Fellow Jared Yancey), JOSÉ E. SERRANO (Fellow David Lewis), as well as my own office (Fellow Andrea Corey). Fellow Candace Bates is completing an internship at the State Department's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues and friends for the invaluable experiences that they are providing and for personally hosting a Rangel Fellow in their offices. The experiences to be obtained in here in the House of Representatives will provide insight that is a special and unique part of this program. This Capitol Hill exposure and experience will be particularly useful as they enter the State Department as junior Foreign Service Officers. Thank you for the wonderful opportunities that you are providing this summer.

It is with gratitude that I also thank Representatives BERKLEY, CHRISTENSEN, CONYERS, HYDE, KILPATRICK, MENENDEZ, MILLENDER-MCDONALD, and SERRANO for hosting fellows last year, the inaugural session of the 2004 Rangel Fellows Congressional Program.

I am extremely proud that there are currently 22 Rangel Fellows enrolled in graduate schools across the country, with a current intake of ten graduate students per year. Nine of these students are serving in internships in U.S. embassies in locations around the world, including Pretoria, Luanda, Nairobi, Maseru, Dakar, Vientiane, Tegucigalpa, and Singapore. The diverse body of fellows includes Afro-Americans, Cambodian-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, Asian-Americans, and Caucasian Americans and draws on a variety of backgrounds and experiences.

Earlier this month, I was extremely grateful and proud to be greeted in Singapore by two Rangel Fellows, Chelsa Wheeler who was assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Singapore and Christen Rhodes, who was assigned to Vientiane. I met and chatted with these two amazing young women while I was awaiting the report from the Olympics Site Selection Committee.

This program is a successful collaboration between the Congress, the State Department, and Howard University, which administers the program with a cross-section of colleges and universities across the country. Former Secretary of State Colin L. Powell introduced the program on May 17, 2002 at a State Department ceremony and most recently, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice expressed her profound support for continuing and expanding this initiative.

Although the program has several components, the two key components are the Fellows Program and the Summer Enrichment Program, SEP, a six-week program designed to expose students to foreign affairs careers

and stimulate stronger interest in the Foreign Service. Approximately thirty students participate in the SEP each year and earn nine semester hours upon successful completion. Since 2003, over 53 undergraduate students have participated in the SEP, with a number being motivated to apply for Graduate Rangel Fellowships.

In the last 2 years, the components of the Rangel Program were reviewed and evaluated by the State Department and were found to satisfy the stringent requirements for inclusion in the Department's prestigious Diplomacy Fellows Program. This milestone achievement has included the program in the distinguished ranks of such programs as the Presidential Management Interns, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Boren, Fawcett, and Pickering Fellows Programs. As a result, fellows who successfully complete the Rangel Program and the State Department requirements will automatically receive employment offers and appointments to the Foreign Service.

I am extremely proud of this program and its contributions to this country. Not only does it expose youth from various backgrounds and experiences to the importance and significance of international relations, it creates the opportunity to diversify our diplomatic corps and to assist in their employment and service to our country. We cannot afford to overlook or underutilize any of our valuable human resources here. In America, diversity is our strength. We have so much to offer in sharing our experience and creating a harmonious society. With our Nation's growing international involvement, there could be no better time than now to attract the very best, the brightest, and the most diverse talent available to represent the American people and champion our interests in every corner of the globe.

I submit the following article from today's Roll Call on the program and the Fellows' recent visit to my office. It was indeed an honor to meet this talented group of America's future.

FELLOWSHIP FOSTERS DIVERSITY: RANGEL FELLOWSHIP FOCUSES ON FOREIGN SERVICE

Since 2003, Rep. Charlie Rangel (D-N.Y.) has been the impetus behind a program at Howard University designed to increase diversity in the State Department Foreign Service.

"Ever since I've been in Congress," Rangel explained in an interview, "the absence of minorities in our embassies and official offices has been astounding." Every time he brought it up to a Secretary of State, however, he was told that the problem was lack of interest in the minority community.

"They said the kids couldn't pass the test, and that kids weren't interested," Rangel said. "Everyone of them would have a meeting with me talking about change, and then leave office."

That cycle changed with Madeleine Albright, President Bill Clinton's (D) final Secretary of State.

"She agreed that she would entertain a proposal, so I went to my first administrative assistant, Patrick Swygert, who had become president of Howard University." Along with former Secretary of State Colin Powell, a member of Howard's Board of Trustees,

Swygert drafted a proposal to create the Rangel Fellowship.

The fellowship, which pays students \$28,000 a year to cover tuition and room and board, requires participants get a two-year master's

degree in a field of interest to the foreign service. International affairs is the most obvious choice, but a whole range of subjects, including foreign languages and political science, are options.

In addition to their studies, Rangel fellows are provided with two internships. One of those internships takes place on Capitol Hill in Congressional offices. Rangel is very proud of the bipartisan support he has received; participants in the program include Reps. José Serrano (D-N.Y.) and Henry Hyde (R-Ill.).

"It's a great program," Serrano spokesman Ben Allen said. "It gives students a chance to see the Congressional side of government up close. The key thing is that it gives them experiences that will help them in the foreign service. The lessons that they learn here are invaluable."

The most recent class of Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Program fellows graduated 20 participants at the end of May.

The second internship takes place in a U.S. embassy. When Rangel traveled to Singapore to make New York's case for hosting the 2012 Olympics, he was pleasantly surprised to find himself greeted by two Rangel fellows, Chelsia Wheeler and Christen Rhodes.

The fellows also participate in a summer enrichment program, a six-week program "designed to stimulate stronger student interest in international affairs and to generate a deeper understanding and appreciation for career opportunities in international affairs." That program recently wrapped up and is not just for Rangel fellows; any college student who has completed his or her sophomore year can apply.

Upon graduation, students are contractually committed to at least three years of service as a Foreign Service Officer. After a training period in Washington, officers are sent out around the globe to perform consular work.

The program is directed by Kevin McGuire, formerly the ambassador to Namibia. He said that initially, the fellowship "was designed to bring people to Washington for the summer enrichment program. This grew into the idea of a fellowship program. While we continue the SEP, the central focus right now is the fellowship program."

The current Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice, has also expressed her support for the program, even stating that she thinks it should be expanded, Rangel said. "About a month ago I met with Condoleezza Rice, and she recommended I get this program going in every historically black college." Rangel has been thrilled by the level of participation thus far. "It's been a smashing success. Their enthusiasm rejuvenates me. Retired black ambassadors who had to break new ground to get in the door, they are mentors for students today. A lot of mentoring goes on, and there's a lot of co-operation from the U.S. State Department."

The Congressman believes that in a time of increased involvement with the rest of the world, the United States must make a special effort to increase the number of people in the diplomatic corps. "We are recruiting people to keep the peace and keep the diplomacy," Rangel said. "We need to reach out to people to show them how exciting the opportunity can be. We need to show them that there are different people all over the world."

THE 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF TURKISH ILLEGAL INVASION AND OCCUPATION OF CYPRUS

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise again today, as I have for more than 2 decades, to voice intense objection to the illegal occupation of Cyprus by Turkish troops and to declare my grave concern for the future of the island. The Turkish incursion into Cyprus, 30-plus years ago, has rendered a legacy of internal division, and should worry those in this Chamber who cherish freedom and espouse the virtues of democracy.

In July 1974, Turkish troops invaded and captured the northern part of Cyprus, seizing more than a third of the island. The Turkish strategy included ethnic cleansing. Not only did the Turks expel 200,000 Greek-Cypriots from their homes, but Turkish troops were also responsible for the systematic killing of 5,000 innocent civilians. In the process, Turkey installed 40,000 military personnel on Cyprus. Today, these troops, in conjunction with United Nations (U.N.) peacekeeping forces, make the small, once peaceful island of Cyprus one of the most militarized areas in the world. Well over a quarter of a century later, approximately 1,500 Greek-Cypriots remain missing, including four Americans.

The Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot communities are separated by a 113-mile barbed wire fence, called the Green Line. Until 2003, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), a government formally recognized only by Turkey, prohibited Greek-Cypriots from freely crossing the Green Line to visit the towns and communities of their families. Controlling 37 percent of the island, Turkey's military occupation has had severe consequences, most notably the dislocation of the Greek-Cypriot population and the resulting refugees.

More than thirty years later, despite efforts by G-8 countries and the U.N. generally, the forced separation of these two communities persists. The U.N., with the explicit support of the United States, has sponsored several rounds of proximity talks between the Greek-Cypriots in the South and the Turkish-controlled north.

The U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan took a lead role in brokering a reunification proposal. On several occasions, my colleagues and I strongly voiced our serious concerns with the Annan plan through letters, meetings, and floor statements. We warned that the plan, as written, was not viable and did not assuage the Greek-Cypriots' security fears. Without a doubt, greater efforts should have been made to address these legitimate security concerns.

By ignoring these concerns, Greek-Cypriot voters were put in the adverse position of having to oppose the plan. On April 24, 2004, they made clear that the suggested settlement failed because it did not provide certain guarantees, nor did it ensure complete compliance by Turkey once the plan was implemented. Had their concerns been addressed, I have no doubt that the Annan plan would have received an overwhelming positive vote.

The Annan plan did not include a thorough removal of foreign troops from Cyprus. Al-

though previous versions of the Annan plan called for the complete withdrawal of Greek and Turkish forces once Turkey joined the European Union, the final version of the Annan plan provided for an indefinite presence of Turkish troops in Cyprus. According to the plan, the number of troops would gradually decrease to 650 over a period of fourteen years.

The plan also provided for the continuation of the Treaty of Guarantee, maintaining the guarantor powers (Turkey, Greece, and the United Kingdom) the right to unilaterally intervene in order to preserve the "constitutional order" of the United Cyprus Republic and its constituent states. The Annan plan failed to clarify that this treaty would not authorize military intervention.

This is a critical point, because Turkey insist that it continues to have the right to intervene militarily in Cyprus.

Additionally, the Annan plan did not provide for a property recovery system that would recognize the rights and interests of displaced Greek-Cypriots, nor did it include a satisfactory property compensation system. Specifically, the plan allowed for one-third restitution and two-thirds compensation for Greek-Cypriots who would lose the use of their northern properties. The Federal Government of Cyprus would be responsible for disbursing the restitutive funds. Nine-tenths of the Federal State's resources, however, derive from Greek-Cypriots. Therefore, the plan essentially called for Greek-Cypriots to pay for the loss of their property.

In addition, the plan required constituent states to pay the compensation for property transfers. This meant that Greek-Cypriot refugees would have to request compensation from the Greek-Cypriot Constituent State. Again, Greek-Cypriot taxpayers, who were the victims of the invasion, would be paying for their own losses.

The Annan plan failed to institute policies that could have engendered cohesion between the two communities. The plan failed to provide a viable government free of built-in deadlocks and voting restrictions, establishing instead a system based on permanent ethnic division and the denial of democratic rights to a segment of the population. The plan ignored the right of all Cypriots to buy property and to live wherever they choose without being limited by ethnic quotas. Furthermore, the plan set complicated and restrictive provisions regarding the right of Greek-Cypriot refugees to return to their homes in the north. In fact, the plan mandated that no more than 33.3 percent of the TRNC population could be Greek-Cypriot. This restriction would have been permanent. In addition, under the plan, Greek-Cypriots permanently living in the TRNC and possessing its internal citizenship status would not have the right to participate in elections for its 24 representatives in the federal Senate.

Since the vote on the referendum, Greek-Cypriots have been criticized for allegedly rejecting peace and the "only chance" for reunification. Many people—including the Greek-Cypriots themselves—regret that the presented plan did not allow both communities to respond positively. Criticism and anger, however, will only further divide the island precisely when the Cypriot people need the support of the international community to continue on the path toward lasting peace.

Greek-Cypriots should not be blamed for voting against a plan that they believed did not

meet the interests of their country and their futures. It is one thing for others to comment on the terms and conditions for settlement, but it is the Cypriots who must live with whatever plan is adopted.

The Government of Cyprus continues to emphasize that it remains committed to reunify Cyprus as a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation with democratic and human rights for all Cypriots. The Cypriot Government has announced a series of measures aimed at assisting those Turkish Cypriots residing under the control of the occupying Turkish army. The package included a wide range of political, social, humanitarian, educational and economic measures that would enhance the Turkish-Cypriots' ability to enjoy many of the benefits that the Republic of Cyprus offers to its citizens—including benefits which result from its European Union membership. Far beyond a merely symbolic gesture, the package is a substantive program to integrate the Turkish-Cypriot community into the larger Cypriot society.

The Republic of Cyprus and Greek-Cypriots have provided the Turkish-Cypriot community more than \$700 million dollars in aid. In the past two years, the government of Cyprus has paid more than \$43 million dollars in social insurance pensions to Turkish-Cypriots, and Turkish-Cypriots working outside the Green Line made \$7 million dollars in wages last year. Since April 2003, more than 24,000 Turkish-Cypriots have received free treatment in hospitals and medical centers inside the Republic of Cyprus, the combined cost of which totals more than \$9 million dollars.

Since the invasion more than three decades ago, Turkish occupied areas have received free electricity from the Cyprus Electricity Authority at a cost of nearly \$343 million dollars. Together, more than 150,000 birth certificates, identity cards and passports have been provided to Turkish-Cypriots by the Republic of Cyprus, so that Turkish-Cypriots could travel and acquire work more efficiently. The Republic of Cyprus has begun a program where it pays the full tuition fees of Turkish-Cypriot pupils in secondary education private schools in the government controlled areas. The program to date has promised more than 5.4 million in tuition fees, and the program added five times as many students this year than it did in its first year, 2003.

The occupying Turkish regime partially relaxed restrictions that limited travel across the Green Line. Since then, there have been more than five million incident-free border crossings by Turkish and Greek Cypriots to visit areas and homes that were inaccessible to them for over 30 years. As a result, Greek-Cypriots have infused more than \$57 million dollars into the impoverished, Turkish-occupied economy in the North. It isn't clear whether opening the border was just a tactic to ease frustrations, or a sign that Turkey has had a fundamental change of heart. Nevertheless, it has produced rare displays of human kinship, exchanges of flowers and pastries, and emotional visits to homes abandoned in the mid-1970s.

Still, neither the Government's incomplete, albeit well-intentioned, benefit package for Turkish-Cypriots, nor the limited lifting of restrictions by Turkey's occupying regime, substitutes for a comprehensive resolution to end Cyprus' divide. I urge the Bush Administration, the United Nations the European Union, and this honorable body to respect the democratic

decision of the Cypriot people, to remain engaged in efforts to resolve the Cyprus problem, and to work toward a fair and lasting reunification of Cyprus.

As Cyprus works toward reunification it is imperative that leaders and diplomats from the United States and other nations respect and observe Cypriot law and international law in their dealings with Cyprus. Recently, Members of Congress traveled directly into the northern airport of Cyprus in Tymbou. Direct flights into occupied Cyprus are inconsistent with principles of international law and in tension with domestic law of the United States. In particular, it is indisputable that international law mandates that flights cannot enter a country's airspace without the consent of the sovereign government. Indeed, the Convention on International Civil Aviation, signed in Chicago on December 7, 1944, provides that "the contracting States recognize that every State has complete and exclusive sovereignty over the airspace above its territory." The Republic of Cyprus' sovereignty over the entire territory of Cyprus has been recognized and reaffirmed by numerous U.N. Security Council Resolutions, as well as long-standing U.S. policy.

Section 620C of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, amended in 1979, separately establishes that the United States' foreign policy towards Cyprus is to support the withdrawal of all Turkish forces from Cyprus and the reunification of the island. Any government or congressional trip will not only derail and discourage reunification efforts, but to the contrary, will be exploited as an implicit recognition of the so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" by the United States, thus further reinforcing the island's division.

It is my understanding that at no time has the Republic of Cyprus authorized flights into the illegal airports situated in the occupied area of Cyprus. Moreover, flights into these airports are not necessary; the Republic of Cyprus encourages visits to the occupied area in a manner that does not create insurmountable legal issues and reinforce the existing division of the island.

What is surprising and disappointing is that our own State Department encouraged these Members to fly directly to the airport in the TRNC under the guise of easing the isolation of Turkish-Cypriots. The State Department has authorized U.S. government personnel to travel directly to northern Cyprus, but they require that they must use their tourist passports. I don't understand why they are not instructed to use their official passports since they are visiting the TRNC on official business. I believe that if the legality of direct travel to TRNC were not in dispute, requiring U.S. government personnel to use their tourist passports would be pointless.

The State Department maintains that this policy is consistent with U.S. and international law and that neither U.S. nor international law prohibits U.S. citizens from traveling directly to the TRNC. While the State Department is technically correct that nothing precludes U.S. leaders, diplomats, staff, or citizens from entering the airport in the north of Cyprus, such actions do contravene the Chicago Convention and contradict established U.S. foreign policy.

I have sent letters to President George W. Bush and U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice expressing concern regarding the legality of U.S. citizens, U.S. government personnel, and Members of Congress

flying directly from Turkey to the airport at Tymbou in the occupied northern part of Cyprus. The letters also requested legal clarification on direct flights to TRNC by U.S. citizens, U.S. government personnel, and Members of Congress. These letters were signed by more than thirty of my colleagues.

I think they need to be reminded that the United States recognizes the Republic of Cyprus as the only government of Cyprus, the Republic of Cyprus has not authorized flights into the northern airport, and the Republic of Cyprus and the United States are signatories to the Chicago Convention. Therefore, when U.S. citizens travel to Cyprus through the northern airport they not only undermine an ally of the United States, but they also flout U.S. foreign policy, which has been in place for ten consecutive presidential terms. As the U.S. government never would allow members of the Cypriot House of Representatives to enter the United States through an airport that is not designated as a legal port of entry, it also should discourage U.S. citizens, U.S. government personnel, and Members of Congress from doing the same in Cyprus.

Such actions do little more than undercut the reunification efforts. The Turkish invasion of Cyprus is responsible for the destabilization of the Republic of Cyprus. Likewise, unauthorized travel into the northern airport, especially by American leaders, belittles the Republic of Cyprus' authority and destroys its credibility. Cyprus' sovereignty deserves no less reverence from the United States than any other nation with which the U.S. deals and considers an ally.

American leaders should set an example for the rest of the world to follow, and in all our dealings with Cyprus, our utmost concern ought to be reunification. We should look to correct the wrong that occurred more than thirty years ago. We should work to bring about a just resolution to the situation. And, at the very least, we must act to halt the continuing injustice which the world community allows to continue in Cyprus.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, because my airline flight was delayed, on July 18th I was unable to be present for the vote on H. Res. 328, Recognizing the 25th anniversary of the workers' strikes in Poland in 1980 that led to the establishment of the Solidarity Trade Union. (rollcall number 380). Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2601, FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2006 AND 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 19, 2005

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this rule, which prevents the House

from considering several very important amendments to the State Department Authorization Act. Among them is one that I offered that would have made the Navy's Marine One helicopter program subject to existing export control laws—that would also have limited the ability of foreign companies working on the Marine One program to sell the technology used in the President's helicopter to countries like Iran and other threats to our national security.

Unfortunately, this is a very real possibility. In January, the Marine One contract was awarded to a European consortium led by Finmeccanica Italy and its British subsidiary, Agusta Westland, and only a month later, both companies appeared at an aerospace tradeshow—in Iran. The American president of Finmeccanica's U.S. division explained his company's presence in Iran by saying "I think they're our enemy," going on to explain, quote, "In Europe, they don't call [Iran] the enemy"—as if that somehow makes it acceptable to sell them our most advanced aerospace technology.

The notion that the companies building the president's helicopter, working with sensitive American technology, may be doing business with a member of what the president himself called the "Axis of Evil" should give us all very serious concern. Do we want these companies to be able to easily transfer Marine One technology to Iran or other countries? Because that is a very real possibility given the contract the Navy has signed.

Mr. Speaker, few images capture the U.S. Presidency like that of the Marine One helicopter landing on the White House lawn, the president emerging from under the blades—it is ingrained in our collective national consciousness. Even 7 months after this decision was made, I still find it hard to believe that the next generation of the president's helicopters will be largely built not by American but foreign workers, with 36 percent of the work on the Marine One program performed in England and Italy. Indeed, the Navy expects to procure 32 aircraft, the first seven of which will be constructed almost entirely in England. Only the final assembly will be done in the United States. This ought to be a matter of our national pride.

While I believe that all of this work should be done in the United States, my amendment would have at least ensured that the work on this program—funded by the U.S. taxpayer, but done outside the United States—will not fall into the hands of state sponsors of terrorism.

To be clear, I have no quarrel with Lockheed-Martin or Bell Helicopters, who are partners with Finmeccanica and Agusta Westland in this program. Like Sikorsky, they make many fine products upon which our troops rely, and they employ thousands of hard-working men and women whose love of country is unrivaled. But, Mr. Speaker, the decision to award a large portion of this contract to European companies is deeply misguided and could have an adverse impact on our national security.

Mr. Speaker, the Marine One helicopter is expected to have the most advanced parts, security features, communications equipment and survivability of any rotorcraft in our military's arsenal. And to allow that technology and equipment to fall into the hands of threats to our national security is a risk that none of

use should take. Yet that is exactly what the House Republican leadership has forced us into doing.

I urge my colleagues to reject this rule so that the House may have the opportunity to consider this critically important issue.

IN MEMORY OF BRENDA E.
PILLORS, PH.D.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brenda E. Pillors on behalf of Ms. Fredette West.

Mr. Speaker, on June 12, 2005, God's whisper to "come home" came to Brenda Pillors (Chief of Staff to Congressman Ed Towns), our sister in service and life on the frontlines in the battles and opportunities to improve life and health for all.

It is with honor that I present this special tribute in memory of our outstanding colleague and dear friend, Brenda. Today, July 20th marks what would have been a celebration of Brenda's earthly birthday. Colleagues, family and friends know that Brenda did so much to improve the quality of life for all people.

Brenda developed health policy and legislation that positively impacted public health domestically and internationally. Her expertise and outstanding contributions abound in the area of eliminating health disparities among communities of color, women and children, as well as the indigent and marginalized in society. She tirelessly worked on a broad range of social policy issues including Medicare and Medicaid, healthcare reform, HIV/AIDS, diabetes, obesity, sickle cell disease, cancer, heart disease, clinical life trials, bioengineering, health technology, alternative medicine, behavioral health, workforce diversity, and affirmative action. Likewise, she worked collaboratively with various health commissions, agencies, advisory councils, and programs including NIH, FDA, SAMHSA, CDC, HRSA, AHRQ, OMH, OCR, 10M, and the National Health Service Corps.

Brenda Pillors was always present to advocate on a range of public health issues from pharmacology, immunology, vaccines, hospitals and community health centers, men's health, environmental health, nutrition, birth defects, the uninsured and underinsured, to urban and rural health, infant mortality, head start, mental health, primary care practitioners and community health workers, researchers, private and public sector officials, and on behalf of everyday citizens like you and me. Her presence and tremendous heart still have far-reaching impact.

We will always remember you Brenda. Your dedication, commitment, leadership, expertise, understanding, voice, smile, and laughter will forever live in our hearts. Brenda Pillors was a true leader in the area of public service and an exemplary servant in God's army of love.

My "sister" we'll miss you always. Your legacy of achievements is written in the hearts of those you touched. Your presence and legacy is embedded in the walls and along the halls of the U.S. Congress, and is also written throughout the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and in legislation, Congressional hearing questions,

transcripts, committee, conference, and agency reports.

Brenda truly lived a purpose driven life. Thousands of lives have been improved and saved because of her life's works. The majority of the people who have and will benefit from her work will never know her. The lives and bright futures of generations to come will benefit from her work. We have always been proud of Brenda.

Dear Brenda, we thank, salute, and honor you. Our "sister in service" who endeavored throughout her life to ensure justice and equality for all—Brenda Pillors, PhD.

Mr. Speaker, on this day that would have marked Brenda's 53rd birthday we reflect on our love, appreciation and respect for Brenda Pillors. We thank God and her family for sharing her with the nation, the world and us.

IN MEMORY OF CONGRESSMAN
JAKE PICKLE

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I submit this statement for the RECORD.

EULOGY FOR J.J. PICKLE

(By Dr. William H. Cunningham)

Jake Pickle always referred to The University of Texas at Austin as "my University," and no one ever had a greater right to that claim. When Jake said that, it was an expression not of what The University owed to him, but of his abiding love for it and all that he wanted to do to benefit it.

And benefit The University he did. Across all the generations, since The University was only a dream in the heart of Dr. Ashbel Smith, no one has ever loved The University of Texas more than Jake Pickle.

No one ever stood by The University with greater loyalty in its time of need.

No one has ever worked harder to help it realize its vision of greatness.

No one has ever given it wiser counsel or embraced it with greater love.

And The University never had a greater friend.

So today we remember and celebrate a man in whose heart The University held a central place. And we remember and celebrate also the fact that Jake Pickle was central to the rise of The University as an internationally prominent institution.

The story of The University's development and flourishing since the mid-20th century is a complex one, with many chapters and versus and many personalities. But no one should ever underestimate the crucial importance of the fact that during much of that time The University was represented in Congress by Jake Pickle.

I had the good fortune to talk with Jake on many occasions about his experiences at The University, and he often said that his decision to enroll at U. T. was one of the most important decisions he ever made.

To a large extent, we can thank the Great Depression for that decision. Jake's older brother and sisters had gone to Baylor, and everybody was assuming that Jake would follow them, but the Depression intervened and changed his plans dramatically.

By the time Jake graduated from high school in his home town of Big Spring in 1932, the family could no longer afford to send him to Baylor, so Jake decided to enroll at The University.

Jake's father had saved a grand total of \$65 to get Jake started as a freshman in September of 1932. Tuition was \$25 a semester, and Jake's room at the Little Campus Dormitory was another \$25, so that left him with \$15 for books and everything else.

He soon got a job delivering milk to the other residents of the dormitory and made as much as twenty five cents a day—enough to buy a full meal.

But even more important than the money, Jake told me that his milk route enabled him to get to know the other 140 students in the dormitory, and those friendships later became the foundation of his success in campus politics—which, in turn, laid the groundwork for his success in politics in the wider world.

Like Jake, those boys were from relatively poor families, drawn to the university from all over Texas by the opportunity it offered for an affordable education, which in turn provided a lifetime of additional social, economic, and political opportunities.

With those 140 friends from Little Campus spread out across the university, Jake found that he had a strong base of support when he ran for the Student Assembly and the Texas Union Board.

He later combined that base with the growing circle of campus friends and supporters that he and fellow student John Connally attracted when each of them ran for president of the Student Government. By the way, each of them served as the other's campaign manager in those elections.

Jake served as president of the student body after he entered law school in 1937, and Connally was elected the next year. They both ran as "independents," rather than as representatives of the powerful fraternity and sorority cliques, but they also had a lot of support through the Delta Theta Phi fraternity—a group that Jake said went by the nickname of the "Dollar Thirty-Fives."

Campus politics was a serious contact sport in those days, and more than one political rival learned that Jake Pickle and John Connally were formidable politicians.

As Jake told me: "At first Connally and I went in with the fraternities and sororities and other groups in what we called the People's Political Party, but the fraternities decided that the Little Campus men were becoming too powerful so they kicked us out. So then John and I joined together and organized all the independents, all the dorms and boarding houses, and everything else on the campus. We divided the campus into precincts and had a chairman for every one. We found that there were more have-nots than haves."

Jake called the experience "the best political training anybody could have."

He told me another great story about his campaign for student body president. There were three candidates—Bob Eckhardt, who was another independent like Jake, and Ramsey Moore, who was the candidate put forward by the fraternities and sororities. Jake and John Connally were worried that the independent vote would be split, thus giving the election to the Greek candidate.

First they tried to persuade Bob Eckhardt to drop out, but when that didn't work Connally came up with the idea of having a runoff election if no one won a majority. They researched the matter and found that it was permitted by the student constitution although, apparently, student body presidents had always been elected with just a plurality of the votes. Whether to have a runoff became a major issue across the campus, and Jake and John stirred up student opinion and circulated a runoff petition, so the Greeks finally had to accept the idea or appear to be undemocratic.

Well, the runoff plan backfired, because, to everyone's surprise, Jake came out on top in

the first round of voting! If they hadn't sold everybody on the runoff, Jake would have been elected that night.

Jake told me he went to see Dean Shorty Nowotny to ask him what he should do—have a runoff or not—and Shorty told Jake it was up to him. Jake wrestled with the idea of ignoring his own runoff petition, but he finally decided that going ahead with the runoff was the right thing to do.

Jake went on to win the runoff election and take office as president!

That campaign was also notable for Jake's use of his now famous "Pickle Pins." He got the idea from the H.J. Heinz Co., which had given away the green pickle-shaped pins at a World's Fair. Jake said he wrote to Heinz and asked to have any of their old pins, and they sent him five thousand of them. He and his volunteers covered up the Heinz name and wrote "Jake" across every one of them! Jake never forgot the way The University brought together people from all walks of life, from every station in society and from all economic backgrounds, and gave them all a chance to achieve and excel.

He never forgot the friends that he made during his student days and the hardships and triumphs that they shared. And, of course, he never forgot The University itself.

When Jake first ran for Congress he campaigned on the idea of strengthening the Balcones Research Center and developing it into a truly world-class research and development facility. Building on the work of Lyndon Johnson and others through the years, Jake helped The University finally gain title to the Balcones site in 1971, and he contributed in many ways to advancing the status of research facilities at the site. Much of this work was accomplished through Jake's chairmanship of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

In 1994, The University of Texas System Board of Regents renamed the Balcones Research Center as the J. J. Pickle Research Campus in honor of Jake's noble work in support of this outstanding educational enterprise.

Jake's tireless labors on behalf of The University frequently encompassed the arcane nuts and bolts of federal tax policy, and he got things done that nobody else could have. For example, he helped get University oil revenues excluded from the windfall profits tax of the 1970s. And another time, he was instrumental in passing a tax credit that helped direct private-sector resources into university research and development—not just at U.T. but at universities across the nation.

And he was a genius at finding ways to get the federal budget to come to The University's rescue in a time of crisis.

I know that Provost Gerry Fonken, Vice Provost Steve Monti, and Dean of Engineering Herb Woodson will never forget the day back in 1991 when we met with Jake at the Willard Hotel in Washington to try to save our microelectronics building from disaster. Somehow, The University had "value engineered" enough money out of the project so that upon its completion it was nothing more than a shell of a building. This \$10 million problem was presented to the Board of Regents by U.T. System Chancellor Hans Mark and Executive Vice Chancellor Jim Duncan. I was called in to explain how I was going to solve the problem. I turned to the Regents and said I have a plan. Fortunately for me, they accepted my brash confidence and proceeded to the next item of business. Unfortunately for me, I had no plan.

However, I did know how to call my Congressman, our Congressman, the Congressman Jake Pickle.

Within two weeks of the Regent's meeting, Gerry, Steve, Herb and I were nervously

waiting in the dining room of the Willard Hotel to meet with Jake. He and Beryl came charging into the dining room.

Jake was running his hands through his hair, and he announced before he even sat down, "I don't know what the problem is, but I will solve it!" Within one hour he laid out a strategy that involved Jim Wright, Lloyd Bentsen, and Phil Gramm. With a little luck and lots of hard work, in less than two years Congress implemented the Pickle plan and The University was able to successfully "compete" for a special \$10 million package to support microelectronics and material science.

Now that's the kind of Congressman everybody ought to have!

When I think back across the years and recall all those times that I had the good fortune to meet with Jake, two over-riding impressions stand out.

First, it was clear that he was a man who combined the qualities of uncommon vision, boundless energy, and enviable political skill—and that he was always instantly ready and will to bring those talents to bear for the benefit of his University and its succeeding generations of students.

And second, it was always clear that underlying everything Jake did was his great love of people, the immense joy that he felt just by being in the company of other people—listening to them, caring about them, sharing stories and memories, and, yes, sharing with them the dream for a better future.

In all these ways, Jake embodied the spirit of American democracy at its best—a spirit of optimism and hope and good cheer; a spirit of inclusiveness and opportunity; and a spirit of public service that embraced honesty, hard work, practical problem solving, and faithfulness to the fundamental values and principles of representative government.

We all loved Jake, and we will always treasure his memory—a memory that will last for as long as the lights on the U.T. tower orange and for as long as young Texans continue to come to Austin seeking education and opportunity at The University.

Jake, we love you, and HookEm' Horns!

IN REMEMBRANCE OF J.J. JAKE PICKLE

SPEECH OF

HON. LLOYD DOGGETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following eulogies honoring, J.J. Jake Pickle the Doggett Special Order.

(By Peggy Pickle)

AUSTIN, TX, June 22.—Good afternoon! Hot tamale!!! This is not going to be a sad funeral. This is a celebration of a remarkable life. I'm Jake and Beryl's daughter, Peggy. My father asked me to speak on behalf of our family at his memorial service.

Everyone in this sanctuary knows what kind of man Jake Pickle was. Most of you are familiar with his life and career: born in West Texas in 1913, attended the University of Texas, served in the Navy during World War II, had a lifetime love affair with politics which included 31 years representing the 10th Congressional District of Texas in the United States House of Representatives. He had two wives, three children, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

He was a tolerant and demanding man. Tolerant because he didn't believe in forcing

his opinions on others. Demanding because he had high standards for himself and those close to him.

It is trite to say that a person left this world a better place, but in his case it is true. Hardly a day goes by without my being stopped and told, "Your father helped me when my Social Security benefits dried up," or "When my son was injured in Vietnam, Jake Pickle cut through the red tape and got him home." What Daddy loved about serving in Congress was the clout he used to get things done. He considered his staff family. Together they accomplished great things.

But my assignment today is to talk about Jake Pickle from the standpoint of his family. He was the fourth child in a tight-knit family of seven whose values and work ethic defined the rest of his life. Jake's sister Judith and brother Joe and their families are in this audience, along with the families of deceased sisters Janice and Jeanette. The familial bonds which sustained Jake as a child taught him to treat people and relationships with respect.

Jake and Beryl both endured the loss of their first spouse—my mother, Sugar, in 1952, and Beryl's husband, Graham McCarroll, in 1948. In 1960, Beryl and Jake married and began their own family: Jake, Beryl, Dick, Peggy, Graham and a goofy collie dog named Ike. It was a semi-normal life for two years—and then Jake up and announced he was running for the U.S. Congress!

Having Jake Pickle for a husband and father was an interesting experience. He was gone a lot. Except in cases of family emergency, work came first. He was "On Duty" every day except Christmas, and even then if a constituent had trouble. He believed that public officials are answerable to The People 24-hours-a-day, so our telephone number was listed in the phone book. The phone rang all the time, sometimes at 3 a.m., when the constituent was drunk or had an ax to grind.

Jake loved to work the crowd. One of his favorite places to eat was Luby's Cafeteria because there was that long line of people whose hands he could shake. We all know Jake was tight with a buck. Once he said to me, "If you've got some money, I'll take you to Luby's."

Sometimes Daddy worked the crowd when I least expected it. One morning 20 years ago, I drove out to Dillards in Barton Creek Mall to buy, of all things, a Weed Whacker. I got there early so I could cut my grass before it got hot, so I was there when the doors opened. I rode the escalator up to the second floor, picked out a Weed Whacker, and took it to the register.

By now it was maybe 10:05 a.m., there were few people in the store, and nobody but me in the appliance department. When I wrote the check and gave it to the clerk, he looked at my name on the check and said, "Pickle? Are you related to Jake Pickle?" I said I was.

"Well by golly," the guy said. "Mr. Pickle was here this morning, you just missed him."

"But how?" I stammered. "The store just opened!"

"Oh, he addressed our employee meeting at 8 a.m.," the clerk said. "Everybody ate in the lounge. That man sure seems to like his job!"

So I paid for my Weed Whacker and left. It was funny, but it also gave me an eerie feeling that Daddy could be anywhere, and probably was. He was always ten steps ahead, with the rest of us scrambling to catch up.

Jake was quick to make friends and quick to forgive. It was a wonderful trait for a politician because he made few enemies and nursed no grudges. Both Democrats and Republicans voted for him and worked with

him; Jake wasn't partisan, he just wanted to get things done. If at times it was hard to have a legend in the family, it also made us proud. We knew that he was the Gold Standard. The usual temptations like money, women, alcohol and power were no match for Jake's addiction: work. Growing up surrounded by politics, I cannot describe the comfort of knowing that no matter what nastiness was abroad, I would not open the newspaper and read my father's name tainted by scandal.

Daddy was a great motivator, and not only about Congressional business, but about Jake Pickle business: his bees, his garden, his pear relish, his longhorns, his stumps that needed rooting at Niederwald. He rallied people with such enthusiasm that it was only later, when you went home, that you realized your aching back and calloused hands were all you had to show for his project.

Two of Daddy's other projects concerned Christmas. For years our family had a "Hats Off to Christmas" tradition on Christmas morning, as Jake and Beryl distributed hats they had gathered during the year while on junkets—oops! I mean "fact finding tours." During the 1990s, Daddy, dressed as Santa, arrived in increasingly outrageous ways: in Don Cook's Model A Ford, in a fire truck, on a donkey, in a sidecar motorcycle. He always claimed he wanted to arrive by climbing down a rope ladder from a hovering helicopter, but thank God, he never tried it.

Jake didn't care much about stuff—life's fancy trappings—and looking ridiculous never occurred to him. In 1961, when Jake had just been appointed Texas Employment Commissioner, he often drove Dick's used car to work at the fine new TEC office in the Capitol Complex. Dick's '52 Ford was rusty gold, with a '55 front grill, '53 headlights and two bent antennas, but to the new TEC commissioner, it was damn fine transportation.

Years ago in Washington, Daddy had a vivid dream in which he was being chased by a bear. In his sleep, he hollered and flew out of bed, cracking his head on the bedside table. Beryl woke to find him holding his bleeding nose, but happy he had outrun the bear. For weeks, my father went to work on Capitol Hill with black eyes that faded to green and yellow. Cheerfully, he told everybody about his dream—and his narrow escape. I always wondered what people thought. Probably oh, that's just Jake!

He was a stickler for details, always carrying around a piece of paper and a pen in his coat pocket so he could make notes. It will surprise no one that he helped plan this funeral. He was habitually late because he was always coming from another event—and on his way to the next one. His memory was phenomenal. When he ran into a constituent, he remembered their name, their spouse or where they worked.

He loved his family and friends, ice cream, a good story, playing the harmonica, Christmas, the University of Texas, this church, the principles of Democracy, banging on the piano, the hymns of his childhood, dominoes. . . . and a thousand other things. He was innately curious and asked questions constantly. He was a very tough old bird. He endured treatment for cancer which at his age should have killed him, but he hunkered down and got through it. He won remission from cancer an incredible five times. Being weakened irritated him; it cut into his schedule! Right up to the end, he found life interesting. Mom and Pop Pickle whispered in his ear: he always tried to do the right thing.

After my father retired from Congress, and during the years of his decline, many of the people in this Sanctuary—and others not present today—came to visit Jake and Beryl. If he worried that once out of the public eye,

he would be forgotten, he needn't have. On behalf of our family, we thank you. Your visits, laughter, advice and friendship meant the world to them.

My father's legacy is considerable. There are buildings, schools, research facilities, an airport runway and children named after him. Legislation he helped pass changed this country for the better. He counted the mighty among his friends, but treated no person better than another.

But of all his legacies, the one I'm most grateful for is his allowing me to be my own person. He raised me with easy affection instead of a preconceived idea of how a little girl should act. As an adult I have come to understand that the worst thing you can do to any person, especially a child, is to stifle their spirit. Jake Pickle made you want to do your best. I can think of no greater accolade for any person.

I enjoyed a 59-year relationship with my father. Because he was ill for a long time and I witnessed his suffering, I've already grieved for him. I do not grieve for him today. Instead, I am proud of the person that he was and the life he tried to live, right up to the end.

We have other speakers today. As Daddy would say, "Keep it short. People need to get back to work!"

Thank you for being here to help us say goodbye.

EULOGY FOR CONGRESSMAN J.J. PICKLE

(By Paul Hilgers)

AUSTIN, TX, June 22.—Surely you would all know that it is a great honor to be asked to represent the people who worked on Mr. Pickle's staff.

Once you were on the staff, it was a lifetime appointment. Whether you were on the payroll or not, it did not matter. We work for him because we love and respect him.

Like all Pickle staffers, I never knew how hard I could work in one day, or how many people I could help in one day until I started working with Jake Pickle.

We are a proud bunch, those of us who worked in the "Pickle Factory" as we called it. I would like to ask all of you who served on Mr. Pickle's staff to stand. There are many more who could not be here today and a few were already doing advance work in heaven.

Those who worked in his office understood the importance of their job. Whether it was the District Director, the Administrative Assistant who ran the office in Washington, the legislative assistant, the caseworker, or the person who was on the real front line answering the phone and greeting people, he made you feel that what you were doing was critical. He knew that it all had to work together to properly serve the public. He valued the role we each played.

We have a bond that will never be broken, built upon his singular dedication to public service. It is a bond built upon the common experience of knowing this very uncommon man who was so proud of the service we provided together.

We are also bound together by the great Pickle stories. Now, Dr. Cunningham, I need to mention just a couple that escaped your remarks about his time at the University. Like the time he got caught stealing turnips from one of his professor's garden. And, while he did love being in Little Campus, there were stories about nailing their roommates furniture upside down to the ceiling. There are so many stories, way too many stories to tell.

So, when the staffers get together, only a word or a phrase is needed to spark memories of the experiences we shared: squeaky pickles, the county black books, 1000 acres of beautiful topsoil, the Pickle Float, full tank

of gas and an empty bladder, retrieving that Stetson, the dry run, the Virgil Conn story, playing the harmonica and the piano, the pump organ.

There were the annual episodes of serving Venison Chili to the entire House of Representatives every Texas Independence Day, or feeding catfish from the Inks Lake Fish Hatchery to the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee.

And stories about parades! Parades with and without squeaky pickles, cars that worked, and cars that did not. Once, there was a car with a stick shift that Ms. Pickle had to drive.

Always a convertible so he could be seen and so he could throw his pickles. Parades where he was the Grand Marshall and the first car in the parade, and the one where he followed the horses, after his third parade of the day.

At the end of the parade route—Mr. Pickle would stop the car, get out and walk both sides of the route personally shaking every hand and handing out more squeaky pickles.

Most of all he was fun—he was fun to be with.

Our stories are his lasting legacy to us—which is fitting because he was the master storyteller. He knew how to use humor to communicate his message. He would make people laugh, just before he would make them think about a serious issue facing our Nation or our community.

Staffers who took Mr. Pickle to an event were asked two questions just as we arrived: (1) “what is my key message”, and (2) “tell me something funny to say.” We had the old regulars—the Claude Pepper story, the Round Rock story, Dollars for Democrats, but not a Nickel for Pickle story. Many times he would turn to Mrs. Pickle for some of his best material.

We worked hard but his sense of humor made the job enjoyable. But, no one worked harder than he did.

He would start the week with a 6:20 a.m. flight to Washington on Monday mornings. He would put in 15 hour days in Committee hearings, holding meetings with people from the District or from associations and businesses, casting countless votes on the floor of the House, working the phones, signing the mail, reviewing legislation, and then attending 2-4 receptions before going home to Ms. Beryl.

He would keep that schedule everyday until Friday about 12:00 noon when he would fly back to Austin at 5:00 p.m. We would go immediately to the office where he would sign all the mail that had been prepared by the District staff that week. He signed virtually every piece of mail that went out of his Office. This is how he kept up with what was happening to his constituents.

We would often sign the mail on Friday and see one of those constituents at an event that weekend. He would tell them how their case was going, or that we had just sent off the letter. That made an impression on people—they knew that he cared.

He would go to Church on Sunday and we would have some event that evening before I had to get him back to the Airport on Monday mornings. No matter how tired I would get, spending the weekend with Mr. Pickle would re-energize you. His love of public service and his energy was contagious.

He campaigned even harder! He was relentless. On weekends, we would have to have three shifts of staff just to keep up!

So many times people would say . . . he is the only Democrat I ever voted for . . . or, I don't always agree with him, but I always voted for him. He wanted every vote. He earned every vote.

Just one example: a person came to him and asked for help in finding a job—just one

of thousands who asked for help. Mr. Pickle sent out the man's resume a number of times who always seemed to be a finalist for the job, but without success. After several months of writing letters and requesting interviews, I asked Mr. Pickle one day while I was driving him home if he had not done enough and why he was trying so hard to help this man?

He looked at me and said simply, “Paul, the man asked me for help. Is there any other reason that I need to try and help him?” He loved helping people.

Mr. Pickle represented the people of Central Texas to the Federal government, but he was also a representative of the Federal government to the people of Central Texas. He loved welcoming people from the District to Washington. No one gave a tour of the Capital like a Jake Pickle tour of the Capital. He took people in places where you just are not supposed to go. He made the Capital come alive with its history.

He had a vision and a love for Central Texas that no one could match. He was our strongest lobbyist and he lobbied for so many things in addition to UT and SEMATECH. Boggy Creek, a Wildlife Refuge, airports (big ones and small ones), the right of way for MoKan. He worked on behalf of the Austin Housing Authority, the Boy Scouts, Veterans Outpatient Clinic, IRS Service Center, the LCRA, Bergstrom Air Force Base, Flood Control on the Upper San Marcos Watershed, the Visitors Center at the LBJ National Park, the Gary Job Corps, and literally a thousand other things for Central Texans.

Yes, Mr. Pickle worked hard for Central Texas, but he was one of Washington's most respected members of Congress. He believed in having personal relationships with other members of Congress . . . on both sides of the aisle. This is evident by those in attendance today.

Integrity, Honesty, Loyalty, Courage, Determination, Tenacity—these are the qualities that he relied upon to become a trusted legislator. These are the qualities that defined Jake Pickle.

Of all of the legislative work and votes over 31 years, he took the greatest pride in one of his first: the Civil Rights Act. He would get tears in his eyes every time he told the story when President Johnson called him the night the Civil Rights Act passed. The President demanded that Mr. Pickle call him no matter what time of night so he could tell him how proud he was of his vote.

He was also proud of his work as Chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittees of Social Security and Oversight. His most important legislative accomplishment was in maintaining solvency of the Social Security system in 1983. He worked closely with Senator Bob Dole on legislation that represented a bi-partisan approach to the problem. He told me many times that providing a sense of security to tens of millions of Americans gave him a deep sense of pride and meaning.

Third, was his work in the area of pensions and pension reform. He could see problems in the system long before they became the crisis they are today. In fact, if not for some of the reforms he put into place, the crisis would be much greater today. He would say pensions are not a very newsworthy subject, but it was damned important to families counting on them.

The J. J. Pickle formula for success in government was really very simple: a dedication to public service plus a love of helping people, multiplied by a deep faith in our system of government.

He placed the highest priority on constituent service because he thought the highest calling of government was to help people with their problems. He was committed to being responsive and accessible.

Mr. Pickle often referred to the Congressional Office as “the big buffer” between the individual and “big government.” It was the place where any citizen, rich or poor, democrat or republican, could come for help when there was nowhere else to turn.

Finally, Mr. Pickle had a truly unique ability to balance a short-term immediate focus with his long-term vision. He taught us that the best public policy always made the best politics.

Social Security legislation was to be based upon solvency of the system, pension policy based on protecting the pension holders not big business, civil rights legislation based on justice and equal protection.

Locally, his long-term vision included the need for inter-modal transportation systems, two runways at Bergstrom Airport, flood control systems, public power, solar energy, habitat for endangered species and protection of water quality, a first class research facility at UT's Balcones Research Center that bears his name.

There is a phrase he used in some of his later speeches, “In the Shadows of Greatness”. Referring to the portion of MoPac north of U.S. Hwy 183 that runs between MCC and the J.J. Pickle Research Campus—he talked about how people would drive through that corridor not realizing that they were actually traveling “in the shadows of greatness” because of the world class research being conducted in the buildings they were passing by.

Those of us on the Pickle staff understand a different meaning for this phrase. We worked in the Shadows of Greatness every day we were with him. He had an impact on this world and particularly on this community that is—as he predicted—already being forgotten by most.

But, his fingerprints are everywhere. His legacy of public service, of loyalty to his University, of his commitment to good and responsive government has been recognized through the naming of the Federal Building, the Research Center, the Elementary School, the Pickle Runway at Bergstrom Airport, and even a peach orchard on Town Lake.

So, on behalf of your eternal staff . . . we will never forget what you taught us. We will always celebrate and treasure our time with you. My prayer is that you are already—cheating at dominoes with all of your friends—friends who have been waiting so long for you. I am confident that the quality of life in heaven just got better.

God Bless You, Great Leader, for your service, for your legacy, for giving us the opportunity work in your great shadow!

We had a great ride!!

MR. JOHN L. PROCOPE, PUBLISHER, ENTREPRENEUR, AND EXEMPLAR

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding newspaper publisher and business entrepreneur who pursued a successful career in business while remaining rooted in the community and opening many doors of opportunity for others. Mr. John L. Procope was an important voice in Harlem politics, society, and education and his influence and impact was felt beyond his home community in the City of New York and the nation. He passed away on July 15, 2005.

In 1971, John and a group of five co-owners bought the Amsterdam News in Harlem and

kept an important black newspaper alive and running in a community that needed and wanted to be kept abreast of events in Black America. Through his work as the paper's publisher, he ensured that the community was aware of issues of importance to them and knowledgeable on the events of the day.

Through his ownership of the Amsterdam News, he worked to inform, educate, and activate a community which had suffered through difficult times and knew that to improve their stake in society they would have to be diligent on the issues. He did not stray from controversial topics or fail to express his opinions in the best interest of his community.

Following the riots in reaction to the 1977 blackout in New York, John was outraged by the reaction of the black community and readily expressed his criticism of young alienated Blacks and the lack of black leadership in properly addressing the situation and providing hope for future generations. John would later head up the Emergency Aid Commission to provide grants to local businesses harmed by the looting that ensued from the blackout. He impressed upon the community and its political and social leadership the importance of building up and supporting local businesses, rather than tearing them down and destroying their economic ability.

John Procope saw the value of investing in local businesses in our communities. He encouraged entrepreneurs to not only provide jobs to young people and the poor, but to provide opportunities to develop their skills and nurture their talents within the community. John and Ernesta, his wife, were strong advocates of the Fair Access to Insurance Requirements plan in 1968 and have continued to work in highly visible ways to address critical issues and to support humanitarian and cultural causes within the community.

Though John passed away at the age of 82, he led a full and rewarding life. He championed the good causes, fought the right fights, and demanded the most of himself and others. I knew him as an exceptional individual and a trusted friend. The attached obituary from the New York Times (July 18, 2005) highlights the life story and accomplishments of Mr. Procope.

JOHN L. PROCOPE, 82, PUBLISHER OF BLACK NEWSPAPER IN HARLEM, DIES

JULY 18, 2005.—John L. Procope, an entrepreneur and former publisher of The New York Amsterdam News, died on Friday. He was 82 and lived in Queens.

The cause was complications from pneumonia, according to E. G. Bowman Co., where he had served as chairman.

Mr. Procope, a graduate of Morgan State University, was a marketing and advertising executive at several companies before he joined a consortium that bought The Amsterdam News, a black newspaper based in Harlem, in 1971. He was one of six co-owners of the newspaper when he succeeded Clarence B. Jones as publisher in 1974.

After the 1977 blackout and the resultant looting, Mr. Procope broke the traditional restraint of vocal criticism against other prominent blacks.

He published a blistering front-page editorial that contended that there was a "massive vacuum of leadership in the black communities across the city."

The editorial said that since black leaders "hadn't exercised real leadership prior to the blackout, there was no established communication with our young people to use as a base for communication when the looters began."

He was appointed chairman of the seven-member Emergency Aid Commission, which disbursed about \$3 million in grants to businesses hurt by the looting.

In the late 1970's, two co-owners of The Amsterdam News tried to remove Mr. Procope as publisher, saying that business contracts his wife, Ernesta G. Procope, had with the city resulted in a conflict of interest—a contention the Procoptes denied.

Mr. Procope left the newspaper in 1982 to focus on E. G. Bowman, an insurance company that had been founded by his wife that was one of the first major African-American-owned businesses on Wall Street. The company's client list started with underserved Brooklyn homeowners but grew to include Fortune 500 companies.

Mr. Procope and his wife were a driving force behind the creation of the Fair Access to Insurance Requirements plan in 1968 to help make insurance available to all residents of New York State. He and his wife were also highly visible in political and philanthropic circles.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sisters, Dr. Jean Martin of Bloomfield, Conn.; and Jonelle Terrell of Manhattan.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS ON 37TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Special Olympics on the celebration of their 37th anniversary. When the Special Olympics was founded in 1968, individuals with developmental disabilities were all too often separated from their families, as well as segregated from their communities. My aunt, Eunice Shriver, was able to see the potential of individuals with intellectual disabilities through her sister, and my Aunt, Rosemary. She was confident in her, and other disabled individuals', ability to participate in a meaningful way in their communities. By using sport as a vehicle and stage for demonstrating the dignity and capability of people with intellectual disabilities, Mrs. Shriver recognized the impact not only on the athletes themselves, but on the nation, as well. When the first International Special Olympic Games were held in 1968, 1,000 athletes participated from 26 states and Canada. Today, the Special Olympics serves more than 1.73 million athletes in 150 countries around the world.

The Special Olympics goes far beyond serving the athletic needs of their participants, and has recently developed an initiative to provide much needed medical health services titled "Healthy Athletes." Special Olympics "Healthy Athletes" improves access and health care for athletes at event-based health screenings, as well as makes referrals to local health practitioners when necessary. The data collected during these screenings also provides valuable information on the specific health needs of individuals with intellectual disabilities. In fact, data from the 2003 Summer games showed that 30 percent of all athletes reported never having an eye exam and also referred 23 percent of athletes for follow-up by a physical therapist.

The benefit of the Special Olympics to athletes, families, volunteers, and coaches cannot

be adequately measured by statistics and numbers, but can be best represented by the recognition of the potential of individuals with intellectual disabilities by our society. Congratulations to the Special Olympics on 37 years of extraordinary service.

THE 31ST BLACK ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 31st Anniversary of the Turkish Invasion of Cyprus. First, I would like to acknowledge Representative BILIRAKIS and Representative MALONEY for their efforts in bringing this issue to Congress.

Today, as you well know marks the Anniversary of a day 31 years ago when the people of Cyprus's lives changed. In 1974, Turkish forces invaded Northern Cyprus and seized control of more than one-third of the Island. Cyprus has for the past 31 years been divided by a 113 mile barbed wire fence that runs across the island. Therefore, Greek Cypriotes are prohibited from visiting the towns and communities where their families have lived for generations. In 1983, illegal occupiers of the island declared the territory to be an independent state and called it the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus," a country which today remains shunned by the International Community and is not recognized by anyone besides Turkey. Currently there are over 35,000 Turkish troops illegally stationed and it continues to be one of the most militarized areas in the world.

I commend the United States Government, the European Union and the United Nations for encouraging a solution to the problem plaguing Cyprus. I sincerely hope that by taking a stance today, we can promote a renewed effort for direct negotiations and help the Greek Cypriotes get back what is rightfully theirs.

I would like to express my support of the Greek Cypriotes who have been disenfranchised for generations and continue to be mistreated today.

HONORING THE PLEASANT GREEN BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge the contributions of a very special church in Louisiana's 7th Congressional District.

The Pleasant Green Baptist Church has been an important part of the Sulphur community and on July 31, 2005, Pleasant Green will be celebrating its 100th anniversary.

The church's current leader, Rev. James Gatewood, is a dedicated servant. His success and the church's strong presence are directly attributable to the faith, generosity, and contributions of the congregation. The church

has been an important part of the moral fabric of Southwest Louisiana for 100 years and I am confident Pleasant Green Baptist Church will continue to be a valuable community member for many years to come.

Today I want to recognize and congratulate the church and its congregation, for reaching this historic milestone.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 739, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH SMALL BUSINESS DAY IN COURT ACT OF 2005; H.R. 740, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION EFFICIENCY ACT OF 2005; H.R. 741, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF OSHA CITATIONS ACT OF 2005; H.R. 742, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH SMALL EMPLOYER ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 739, H.R. 740, H.R. 741, and H.R. 742.

Today, America's workers need the protections provided under the Occupational Safety and Health Act more than ever. Each year, 6,000 workers die in workplace-related accidents, and 50,000–60,000 people die from illnesses caused by their jobs. The protections in OSHA ensure what our Nation's workforce has fought for and deserves—a safe and healthy workplace.

Instead of strengthening these worker protections, the bills before us today are an attack on the very intent of these important safeguards.

The first bill, H.R. 739, excuses employers that fail to respond to OSHA citations within the 15-day deadline. The Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission (OSHRC) already has the authority to review missed deadlines on a case-by-case basis. This change removes the incentive for employers to quickly respond to hazards. Meanwhile, the safety and health of workers hang in the balance.

H.R. 740 seeks to expand OSHRC to five members and require that all members be

lawyers. Since the Commission was established in 1970, it has been composed of three members and has benefited from the expertise of those not holding law degrees. This change inaccurately reflects the workload and responsibilities of OSHRC and unfairly excludes the contributions of members with strong backgrounds in safety and health.

H.R. 741 transfers the authority to bring cases to the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court from the Secretary of Labor to OSHRC. This modification overturns a 1991 Supreme Court decision and undermines the Secretary's responsibility to enforce OSHA policies.

The biggest blow delivered by H.R. 742 requires OSHA to pay attorney's fees for every case it does not win, regardless of why the case lost or how well-justified it was. This places the burden of these cases squarely on the taxpayer and leaves America's workforce more vulnerable than ever.

The substitute amendment offered by Congressman GEORGE MILLER to raise the minimum wage has my full support. It is unacceptable that employees working 40 hours a week, 52 weeks a year, for minimum wage earn only \$10,700 a year—\$3,400 below the poverty line for a family of three. American full-time, full-year workers should not be forced to raise their families in poverty. It is unfortunate that this amendment was not made in order by the Republican leadership, as this raise would have benefited over 11 million American workers and their families.

The hard-working men and women of this country deserve to be protected and safe in the workplace, Mr. Speaker. That is why I urge my colleagues to vote against these ill-conceived bills.

TRIBUTE TO BEN BALL OF MOREHEAD CITY, NORTH CAROLINA

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in sadness to note the recent passing of a dear friend and great American, Ben Ball of Morehead City, North Carolina.

Born on October 14, 1956, Ben died too soon at the age of 48. Yet in those 48 years, he led a remarkable life.

After attending Wake Forest University, Ben went on to graduate from East Carolina Uni-

versity and then began a successful 25-year career in the real estate business. He was a member of the Carteret County Association of Realtors where he was named Realtor of the Year in 1981, 1992, and in 2002. The North Carolina Association of Realtors named him State Realtor of the Year in 2003, and he served as President of the North Carolina Association in 1992. From 1991 through this year he served as a State Director of the North Carolina Association of Realtors, and was active in the governmental and political process both in Raleigh and in Washington, DC.

In addition to his professional activities, Ben was a pillar of his community. He was a lifetime member of First United Methodist Church in Morehead City, NC. He was a past President of the Rotary Club of Morehead City, and in 1997 was named Rotarian of the Year. Additionally, he had served for 5 years as Sponsorship Chairman of the Crystal Coast Habitat for Humanity Golf Tournament, served as Past President of the Carteret County Division of the American Heart Association, Past President of the Morehead City Planning Board, and as Past Chairman of the Carteret County Republican Party. Further, he was a volunteer at West Carteret High School, and assisted "Toys for Tots" for the past 5 years to help secure over 500 bicycles for local needy children.

Mr. Speaker, I first met Ben many years ago, and knew him as a friend ever since. While Ben was prominent in the community, most importantly—like everyone else who first became acquainted with him through politics, or business, or through community activities—I came to know him not as a political friend, but just as a friend. Period.

He was unfailing supportive, uplifting, and caring toward the many people in his life. His being here on this earth made a difference in ways that we all know, and—I am positive—in countless ways that we will never know.

In times such as this, there are no words that can fill the void in the hearts of his friends and loved ones. While he is now in the loving arms of God, we who are still here miss him.

Ben is survived by his wife, Debbie Carpenter Ball, by his sister Anne Roberts Ball, and by his daughters Debra Kreth Ball and Laura Ryan Ball. They are all in my thoughts and prayers.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, July 21, 2005 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 22

10 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Karen P. Hughes, of Texas, to be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy, with the rank of Ambassador, Josette Sheeran Shiner, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business, and Agricultural Affairs, Kristen Silverberg, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs, and Jendayi Elizabeth Frazer, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs.

SD-419

JULY 25

12 noon

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Timothy Elliott Flanigan, of Virginia, to be Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice.

SD-226

JULY 26

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine comprehensive immigration reform.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD-538

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Forestry, Conservation, and Rural Revitalization Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine how farm bill programs can better support species conservation.

SR-328A

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine legislation to resolve the lawsuit of Cobell v. Norton.

SH-216

2 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD-538

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Henrietta Holsman Fore, of Nevada, to be an Under Secretary of State for Management, Henry Crumpton, of Virginia, to be Coordinator for Counterterrorism, with the rank and status of Ambassador at Large, Gillian Arlette Milovanovic, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia, James Cain, of North Carolina, to be Ambassador to Denmark, Inter-American Convention Against Terrorism ("Convention") Adopted at the Thirty-Second Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States ("OAS") Meeting in Bridgetown, Barbados, and signed by thirty countries, including the United States, on June 3, 2002 (Treaty Doc. 107-18), Protocol of Amendment to the International Convention on Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (Treaty Doc. 108-6), Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime (the "Cybercrime Convention" or the "Convention"), which was signed by the United States on November 23, 2001 (Treaty Doc. 108-11), United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (the "Convention"), as well as two supplementary protocols: (1) the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and (2) the Protocol Against Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, which were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on November 15, 2000. The Convention and Protocols were signed by the United States on December 13, 2000, at Palermo, Italy (Treaty Doc. 108-16), and S. 1129, to provide authorizations of appropriations for certain development banks.

S-116, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the General Services Administration.

SD-562

Judiciary

Intellectual Property Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine certain issues relative to patents.

SH-216

Environment and Public Works

Superfund and Waste Management Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine electronics waste.

SD-406

JULY 27

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to assess the status of efforts to reduce greenhouse gases relating to the Kyoto Protocol.

SD-406

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine lands eligible for gaming pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

SH-216

Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Forestry, Conservation, and Rural Revitalization Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Conservation Reserve Program.

SR-328A

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To resume hearings to examine the appropriate Federal role regarding chemical facility security.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Aging

To hold hearings to examine the victimization of elderly through scams.

SD-106

3 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Energy Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine recent progress in hydrogen and fuel cell research sponsored by the Department of Energy and by private industry, including challenges to the development of these technologies.

SD-366

JULY 28

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine the implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (P.L. 101-601).

SR-485

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending VA legislation.

SR-418

10 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine NASA passenger aircraft.

SD-562

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 584 and H.R. 432, bills to require the Secretary of the Interior to allow the continued occupancy and use of certain land and improvements within Rocky Mountain National Park, S. 652, to provide financial assistance for the rehabilitation of the Benjamin Franklin National Memorial in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the development of an exhibit to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin, S. 958, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Star-Spangled Banner Trail in the States of Maryland and Virginia and the District of Columbia as a National Historic Trail, S. 1154, to extend the Acadia National Park Advisory Commission, to provide improved visitor services at the park, S. 1166, to extend the authorization of the Kalaupapa National Historical Park Advisory Commission, and S. 1346, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of maritime sites in the State of Michigan.

SD-366

SEPTEMBER 20

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion.

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